

# The American Genealogist

Whole No. 111      July 1952      Vol. 28, No. 3

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## THE AMERICAN GENEALOGIST

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Subscription Rates: \$6.00 by the volume; all single issues, \$2.00 each. Editorial and business address: Box 3032, Westville Station, New Haven 15, Connecticut.

Owner and publisher: Donald L. Jacobus, address above.  
Printers: Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

THE AMERICAN GENEALOGIST

Whole Number 111

Volume 28, No. 3

July, 1952

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN IRELAND  
A SURVEY MADE IN IRELAND IN 1951

By Margaret D. (Mrs. G. F.) Falley, B.S., Evanston, Illinois

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No more debatable subject arises in the field of genealogy than that of the problem of research in Ireland. Because of the enormous destruction of records when the Four Courts in Dublin were burned in 1922, many American genealogists believe that accurate and conclusive work may not now be done in Ireland. They cite the loss of nearly all the Prerogative Wills, Parish records, Tax records, Subsidy Rolls, and a vast miscellaneous collection of public records which had accumulated during many centuries.

After a period of genealogical research in Ireland during the past summer, this report is written as a compilation of information gathered from those who are among the most eminent in Ireland in the fields of history, genealogy, and public archives. For their guidance, cooperation, and friendly message to American genealogists, we are indebted to the following gentlemen and submit their reports:

1. Mr. E. Heatly, Deputy Keeper of the Public Records and his assistant, Mr. Kenneth Darwin, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast.
2. The Rev. David Stewart, retired Director of the Presbyterian Historical Society, Belfast.
3. Dr. R. J. Hayes, Director of the National Library of Ireland, Dublin.
4. Mr. Gerard Slevin, Genealogical Office, Office of Arms, Dublin Castle, Dublin.
5. Mr. Henry M. Havelin, Registry of Deeds, Henrietta St., Dublin.
6. Mr. Dearnid Coffey, Asst. Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, Four Courts, Dublin.
7. Mr. A. T. Collins, Keeper of Manuscripts, Department of Manuscripts, British Museum, London, England.

One and all, the men of Ireland, listed above, report an almost miraculous replacement of documents destroyed

in 1922. Each in his own way and according to his own interests tells of the heroic efforts of a divided country to find public or private copies of the burned records. Collections of Family, Parish, County and State papers, after lying for decades or centuries in the possession of private family or public archives, have come to light in the past twenty-nine years. It is now believed that anyone having the knowledge of the methods necessary for genealogical work in Ireland, may do accurate and effective work. The account of the sources available and suggestions as to methods of procedure will be made in the order the six major repositories of records were visited. It is hoped that those desiring Irish research will carry on work by correspondence between the United States and Ireland with the same confidence that is felt in undertaking such work here.

The account of what is available in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, in Belfast, must necessarily include the story of the building of its great collection of records, of which its Deputy Keepers, past and present, may justly be proud.

Mr. Heatly and Mr. Darwin have a practical attitude toward the use of the records and are anxious to cooperate with those who wish information. For any who have a genealogical problem involving some research, it is best to write Mr. R. A. Young, retired Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, at 6 Glenloch Garden, Garneville Road, Belfast.

The newly created Public Record Office of Northern Ireland was opened in Belfast in June 1923 after it became evident that the Dublin Record Office would in the future be controlled by the Free State Government. It opened with an accumulation of documents covering over twenty years which, due to the disturbed state of the government, had been retained by the Probate Registry and the Crown and Peace Offices of Northern Ireland.

Mr. D. A. Chart, Deputy Keeper from 1923 through 1945, directed the heroic effort of building the great collection of records. Year after year, he published a request throughout Ireland, England, Canada, and the United States, to obtain copies of the destroyed records pertaining to Northern Ireland, from all possible sources. Communications were sent to government departments, libraries, museums, national and local archives, law firms, and families; many of the latter possessing ancient records pertaining to the great estates and the people living on the land. From scattered sources were sent thousands of original documents, certified copies of documents, photostats and abstracts of land records, marriage licenses, prerogative wills, administrations, judgments, mortgages, surveys, patents,



newspapers, and early maps. These covered records of all six counties in Northern Ireland, ranging in date roughly from 1600 to 1922.

All acquisitions were filed in the Public Record Office in Belfast and indexed by place, family, and principal individuals mentioned. A record of the documents received during each year, with an index for documents, families and principal individuals, was included in the catalogue published as the Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records of Northern Ireland. The value of these Annual Reports for 1923-1939 and 1945 to date cannot be too highly stressed for those who wish to know in detail the genealogical resources of the Public Record Office. The 1923-1928 Reports are out of print, but it is possible to locate copies through the Belfast, Dublin and London book shops which will later be mentioned. Those for the other years to date may be purchased for a price of two to four shillings from H.M. Stationery Office, 15 Donegall Square West, Belfast.

Almost at once after the opening of the Public Record Office in Belfast, substitution was made for one of the worst losses of the 1922 fire; that of Original Wills probated after 1858. In that year the Probate Registry was established, and thereafter a copy of each will proved was entered in Will Books in the District Registries for Northern Ireland (Belfast and Londonderry). Over a hundred Will Books for the period 1858 to 1900 have been deposited in the Public Record Office.

In 1931 the loss of Irish Wills prior to 1800 was largely repaired for the genealogist. At that time, the Sir Bernard Burke Collection of forty-two volumes of transcripts of Pedigree Charts was acquired. It contained all relationships mentioned in some 16,000 wills, proved prior to 1800, and about 5,000 grants of administration for the same period. The task of charting the relationships mentioned in the wills was begun by Sir William Betham, subsequently Ulster King of Arms. His successor, Burke, completed the task, giving the original work to the Office of Arms, Dublin Castle, and retaining the copy for himself, the copy which in 1931 was acquired by the Public Record Office in Belfast.

As these charts were made for genealogical purposes, dates and geographical locations wherever mentioned were included, but details of property and bequests were omitted. While Volumes 1 and 2 are arranged somewhat haphazardly, Volumes 3 and 4 show a planned system with an alphabetical sequence which, however, is imperfect, and dealing with wills earlier than 1700 in date. The later Volumes, 5 through 40, contain the charts based on wills of from 1700 to 1800, and these are in alphabetical order. Each volume is self-indexed, both as to

names of testators and names brought in by alliance. An additional volume index, covering Grants of Administration for the same period to 1800, has been completed. It is thought that opportunity to trace a family through several generations, by the use of these records, is excellent, provided the family was of sufficient substance to make wills; for more than half the wills listed in Sir Arthur Vicars' printed Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland 1536-1810 are represented in the Burke Collection. These 43 volumes are easy of access, and anyone may write to the Public Record Office to request photostats of all charts for a given surname, or just the pages containing the Christian names sought in a given family. The charts on most pages cover two or three wills, and the photostating of each page costs two and a half shillings, at present about \$0.35.

The Irish Will Books containing copies of Prerogative Wills for the years 1664-1684, 1706-1708, and portions of 1777, 1813 and 1834, are still preserved in the Public Record Office in Dublin, and should be consulted if a complete search for a family is undertaken. This can be done, upon request, for anyone upon payment of a small fee, and copies or photostats may be had at the same price as in Belfast.

The Parish Registers for Northern Ireland are far more complete than had been expected. Previous to the fire of 1922, an order had been issued for all Parish Records in Ireland, not suitably protected in metal safes, to be deposited in the Public Record Office in Dublin. About one-third of the records had been sent in. However, because of the political unrest, relatively few were sent from Northern Ireland. Two hundred and two of the parishes in these six counties retained their records and these are still intact. Annual reports are received by the Public Record Office in Belfast, from all parishes in this area, regarding the condition of the records, and many volumes are sent in temporarily each year for rebinding. Information regarding the dates and condition of the records in any parish in any of the six counties may be had from the above office, together with the name of the local custodian of such records.

It was found through visits to various parishes that much can be accomplished by such contacts. In many communities all Protestant interments were made in the Church of England burial grounds, regardless of church affiliation. Presbyterian and even Methodist records were often included in those of the Parish. In one case, a call was made upon the Rev. James Sirr, Curate of Dartrey, Parish of Ematris, Diocese of Clogher. Lacking time to check the records of one family with him,

a pound (\$2.81) was left for him to make the search. He mailed a report with a copy of 92 entries of baptisms, marriages and burials, making it possible to reconstruct the entire family from 1750 to 1842. Such results might just as well have been established through correspondence under the direction of the Public Record Office.

In 1924 it was found that, by great good fortune, the Presbyterian Historical Society in Belfast had made transcripts in 1911 and 1912 of the Hearthmoney Rolls for County Antrim of 1669; for County Londonderry of 1663; and for County Tyrone of 1666. They had also, in 1911, copied the Subsidy Rolls for County Down of 1663. These records, which had been copied before the 1922 fire in the Four Courts, Dublin, were recopied for the Public Record Office. The Hearthmoney Rolls constitute an invaluable record of every householder at the time, as without exception each hearth was taxed two shillings. For Counties Antrim, Londonderry and Tyrone, 17,690 hearths were taxed. These transcripts are valuable for locating families in the Seventeenth Century and for tracing the names of individuals for genealogical purposes.

The Subsidy Roll of County Down of 1663 relates to the more prosperous class of people, mostly of Scotch origin, which had settled in County Down before that date, and indicates the taxable wealth of the County. It constitutes a list of all those possessed of sufficient property to be liable to payment of the Subsidy, which was then the chief method of direct taxation. Moreover, it places the time when many individual immigrants had settled in County Down. These four Tax Rolls have provided a virtual Census for four of the six counties of Northern Ireland between 1663 and 1669. Also a series of Rent Rolls, taken at irregular times during the Eighteenth Century throughout Northern Ireland are available in the Public Record Office, and are useful for following the locations of a family. This information also will be provided upon request.

A Particular of the Howses and Famylyes of Londonderry, May 15, 1628, published in 1936, is in the Library of the Public Record Office. It contains the first mention of a number of individuals whose descendants are still in Londonderry and elsewhere. It is the earliest list of householders, with acreage of land allotted to each and the rent charged. In 1616 there were less than 200 houses in Derry.

In addition to the major records mentioned, a large number of original legal documents, hitherto in the possession of private families, have been deposited permanently in the Public Record Office. Transcripts or copies of large collections of state and family papers

were sent on loan from the British Museum; Bodleian Library, Oxford; Cambridge University Library; Scottish National Library, Edinburgh University; Public Record Offices of London and Canada; Quit Rent Office, Dublin; Pennsylvania Historical Society, Philadelphia, Pa.; and the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Mass.

Estate papers in private possession, mentioning many families and individuals seated on the land, were loaned for copying, such as the Antrim Deeds, Armagh Primatial Manor Rolls, Donegal Estate Accounts, Downshire Letters (Hillsboro Collection) 1784-1797, Montgomery Estate Papers, Hamilton Estate Papers, Hertford Estate Documents (Lisburn District) 1719-1894, and The Archdale Papers 1537-1909.

A large number of copies of Family Pedigrees, drawn before 1922 and based upon primary source material in Ireland, and accompanied by certified copies of legal records to substantiate the work, were turned over for deposit. Such pedigrees were sent in by both Irish and American genealogists. One excellent work, tracing a Pennsylvania family from its Irish origins from 1629 to 1831 and accompanied by 58 copies of wills, extracts from wills, grants, bonds, chancery bills and petitions, marriage settlements, leases and deeds, was sent from Philadelphia, Pa.

All of the above-mentioned records, together with untold others, have been calendared, filed, and indexed, and all names of families and individuals of primary importance cited have been indexed in catalogues or card files. A master card index was created and stored in metal drawers in the Public Search Room, and at present is divided into five sections:

- I. Original Documents.
- II. Transcript Class.
- III. Collections of Estate Records.
- IV. Land Records.
- V. Library Index of Historical and Family Documents.

Anyone wishing to locate a surname or individual name may check these files, or have them checked for a small fee, with a good chance of success, if the town, parish or county is known and if the family or individual owned or leased land, paid taxes or left records through wills or marriage records.

"Irish genealogy is inseparable from the interwoven history of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, and a student of the former must have a working knowledge of the latter." This observation was made by the Rev. David Stewart, retired Director of the Presbyterian Historical Society in Belfast, in emphasizing the impor-

tance of an understanding of the effects of continual English warfare upon Irish soil under the Tudors, Stuarts and Cromwell, and also of the tragic flight of the Scotch, from religious persecution, to Northern Ireland, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. He believes that a study of the history of families in Ireland is a study of many phases of the whole evolution of society in Ireland.

Far-flung cause and effect may be traced from the fortunes of war and the payment of Irish land to English and Welsh soldiers left in Ireland for purposes of settlement, government and absorption. Profound changes in the history of Ireland may equally be followed, from the religious disturbances and persecutions of the Presbyterians in Scotland, causing their removal to plantations and settlements principally in Counties Down, Antrim and Armagh. The records, deliberations and enactments involving these changes and migrations are replete with historical notes on individuals and families who were affected.

The Rev. Mr. Stewart, an historian and author of note, has devoted a lifetime to a study of the Scotch-Irish settlements and the records of the Presbyterians in Ireland. He has a large and valuable collection relating to the family histories and activities of individuals who played a part in the ecclesiastical and economic development. With his assistance, in the absence of the acting Director of the Presbyterian Historical Society, a survey was made of the records in that library and also of his own private collections which constitute one of the finest private historical libraries in Northern Ireland. He concentrated a lifetime of experience in outlining, with rapid and graphic description, those sources which must be consulted and the books which are of value in a genealogical reference library of Irish records. He also advised methods and procedure for researchers, when scanty records and few clues are available. Without reiterating his emphasis on the value of records in the Public Record Office, the following are his suggestions.

Consult The General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland, published by Alexander Thom (Dublin, 1861) with the Census of Ireland. This gives, in alphabetical order, the name of every townland, town and island mentioned in the Census publications, the area of each townland, town, parish and barony. Indexes to the parishes and baronies follow the towns or townlands so as to make the work a complete topographical index of Ireland. Anyone in possession of only the name of the parish in which the emigrant originated may place it in the proper

barony and county, and by a cross-index determine every townland in the parish. The same cross-index system is provided for those who know only the name of the barony, town or townland. This is of inestimable value for placing Irish-American immigrants in the precise locality of origin, as a modern map shows none of the baronies, parishes or townlands, and not all of the towns. This index, used in combination with Philips Handy Atlas of the Counties of Ireland (London, 1884), makes it possible to identify the exact locale of origin and to become familiar with the surrounding area, always important factors in tracing an ancestor. No library of Irish genealogical records should lack these two books.

Consult the Publication of the Census of Ireland, by the Registrar-General (two volumes, 1761-1872). This gives an account of surnames in Ireland, where families of various names chiefly resided, derivation of Irish surnames, etc. It is of great service to the student of Irish nomenclature and family history.

A further reference to aid in understanding the surroundings of the emigrant is the Parliamentary Gazetteer of Ireland (3 vols., Dublin, London and Edinburgh, 1841). It presents in detail the results of the Census of 1841, giving geographical and statistical descriptions.

A similar, but earlier and less detailed, publication is the Topographical Dictionary of Ireland, Its Several Counties, Cities, Boroughs, Corporate Market and Post Towns, Parishes and Villages, by Samuel Lewis (2 vols., London, 1839). This includes historical and statistical descriptions.

Every case requires consulting The Memorials of The Dead (12 vols., Dublin, 1888-1931), published by The Association for Preservation of The Memorials of the Dead in Ireland. This work contains information regarding parishes, churches, burial grounds, mural tablets, and many thousands of inscriptions on tombstones, lists of births, deaths and marriages of members of various families, genealogical records in some cases for several generations, and a vast amount of other information. This publication is accompanied by a Consolidated Index of Surnames and Place-Names for Volumes I to VII, compiled by Vigors and Mahony (Dublin, 1914). Also, An Index of the Churchyards and Buildings, from which inscriptions on tombs and mural slabs appeared in the above work, was published in Dublin in 1909. Another Index to the Parish Register Section of the above work accompanies the set. Further publications of the Index to Personal and Place-Names for the volumes since Vol. VII are available in pamphlet form. Every library of Irish genealogical records should include these twelve volumes and the indexes.



Irish Marriages, being an index to the marriages in Walker's Hibernian Magazine, 1771 to 1812, two volumes by Henry Farrar, London, 1897, is a rare and important publication and contains records with dates and localities and an index to some 9,000 marriages. A copy is in the library of the Public Record Office, Belfast, and although limited to an edition of 75 copies, some were found in London as recently as 1951.

"Ireland Protestant Housekeepers in Counties Antrim, Donegal and Londonderry 1740" is a manuscript work in the Presbyterian Historical Society, Belfast. This lists all householders as stated, giving their parish, barony and county.

A Statistical Account or Parochial Survey of Ireland Drawn from Communications of the Clergy, by William Shaw Mason (3 vols., Dublin, 1814), gives an intimate description of many parishes, people active in them, homes, owners and charts of land owned, as well as maps showing the locations.

Religious records, not to be overlooked, include:

The Records of the Synod of Ulster 1691-1820 (3 vols.) give lists of ministers, elders, and their activities, and are of great value. No index accompanies them, but the Rev. David Stewart has compiled his own index, which is to be typed and distributed.

Fasti of the Irish Presbyterian Church 1613-1840, compiled by the Rev. James McConnell, published by the Presbyterian Historical Society, Belfast, 1951, states in the preface that "it is designed to furnish those engaged in Biographical or Congregational research with details from authentic sources otherwise difficult of access." Dealing with all Presbyterian ministers in Ireland ordained between the above dates, with the exception of the Secession ministers, 1746-1840, it gives parentage, dates of birth, marriage and death, name of wife and frequently her parentage, and a brief record of service. These accounts include a large number of ministers who were sent to America for the purpose of establishing and maintaining churches in the Colonies. These volumes should be consulted in all cases.

The Seceders in Ireland, by the Rev. David Stewart, published by the Presbyterian Historical Society (Belfast, 1950), provides a history of Presbyterianism in Ireland and offers a wealth of detail regarding the lives of Secession clergymen and individuals active in the service of the Church, and annals of the congregations. It also contains an account of the Secession ministers and probationers who emigrated to America. It would be wise for any Irish genealogist to own this book.

A History of the Rise and Progress of the People Called Quakers in Ireland, from the Year 1653 to 1700, by Thomas Wight, revised by John Ratty (Dublin, 1751),

contains detail regarding the men who were active in promoting Quakerism in Ireland.

The Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania, 1682-1750, with their early history in Ireland, by Albert Cook Myers (Swarthmore, Pa., 1902), is a book which, though published in America, must not be overlooked by the Irish genealogist, for it offers the connecting link between Ireland and Pennsylvania for many families.

Most of the ancient records of the local Sessions are on file in the Presbyterian Historical Society, Belfast, and include much genealogical information. Some of them are as follows:

Biographical Secession Lists of Dromore Diocese, by H. B. Swanzy.

Biographical Secession Lists of Down Diocese, by Rev. J. B. Leslie.

Armagh Clergy and Parishes, by Rev. J. B. Leslie.

Vestry Records of the Church of St. John, Parish of Agalow, Co. Tyrone, by John J. Marshal (Tyrone, 1935), contains the vestry records from 1691 to 1807 for a large Scotch-Irish settlement and includes genealogical records and activities of men living in the parish. It furnishes an example of the records which are lying in the archives of many a parish.

The Presbytery of Londonderry has many of these Session Records. Magee College at Londonderry has many parish registers or copies of those for the county. These are not catalogued but are available upon request.

Killinchy Presbyterian Church, a History of its Origin, by the Rev. David Stewart (no publication date), contains a history of this parish, located in County Down, and concerns the Scotch settlement. It relates many annals in the lives of the people of the parish and church. It has also an account of the "New England Project," which failed when 140 souls set sail from Belfast Lough in 1636 for the shores of New England but were forced to turn back.

"Aghadowey, County Londonderry, Sessions Book" (Ms.) in the library of the Presbyterian Historical Society includes the same type of information as the other Sessions Books.

Derry Cathedral Registers are almost complete from 1642 to the present time. Outside Dublin, there is but one Register in Ireland of an earlier date; that of Lisburn (1639). There are some gaps in the register, 1643-1649 and 1650-1653, also marriages are wanting from 1668 to 1678, and there are some gaps during the memorable months of the Siege of Londonderry, 1688-9. Entries for the years 1642-1703 have been printed, Vol. VIII, Parish Register Society, Dublin.

(To be Continued)

## THE WHEELERS OF BEDFORDSHIRE AND NEW ENGLAND

By John Insley Coddington, of Washington, D.C.

(Continued from Volume 27, page 125)

### III. PROBATE RECORDS AND FRIENDS' RECORDS

This chapter is divided into two parts. The first part contains probate records, dating from 1500 to 1688, of members of the Wheeler family of Bedfordshire, including eleven abstracts of wills and one full copy of a will from the Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, and three abstracts of wills from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Nine of the wills belong to Wheelers who lived at Cranfield, co. Bedford, the rest to residents of neighboring parishes—two from Marston Mortaine, and one each from Kempston, Dunton and Olney. There is also included an abstract of a will of Thomas "Weder" of Holcot, co. Bedford, because of the possibility (though not probability) that his name might really have been Wheeler, miscopied by a clerk.

The wills reflect in an interesting way the increasing prosperity of the English yeomanry in the two centuries from 1500 to 1700, as well as the change in religious attitude in consequence of the Reformation. Thanks are due to Miss Helen Thacker of London and Mrs. Doris Dancer of Wordsley, co. Worcester, for their kindness in copying the wills.

The second part of this chapter consists of a transcript of the Wheeler entries from the records of the Hitchin Monthly Meeting of Friends, transcribed by the late Gilbert Cope and deposited at the Library of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. As will be seen, a few of the Wheelers of Cranfield became Quakers, but none of these Quaker Wheelers is known to have emigrated to America.

#### Probate Records

1. Abstract of the Will of John Wheler [no place of residence stated, but apparently of Marston Mortaine, co. Bedford], dated 24 Nov. 1500. I desire to be buried in the church yard of Marston Mortayne. I bequeath for my principal [*sic*] my best goods. To the altar of Our Lady for tithes forgotten, 2 bushels of barley. To the sustentation of the light of the Assumption of Our Lady, a bushel of barley. To painting the rood loft, a bushel of barley. To the light of St. John the Baptist, a bushel of barley. To the mother church of Lincoln, 4d. To the light of St. Laurance, a bushel of barley. To my daughter Anne, a cow. To my daughter

Syscell, a cow. To my daughter Jone, a pot, also to my daughter Johan, a pan. To my daughter Anne, a possnet. The residue of my goods unbequeathed I give to my brother Richard Wheler and Robert Dogett, whom I appoint executors. [No witnesses.] Proved, 12 Dec. 1500, by the executors. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 1496-1521, folio 21.]

2. Abstract of the Will of Thomas Weder [sic] of Holcotte, co. Bedford, dated 17 April 1537. My body to be buried in the church yard of St. Nicholas at Holcot. To the mother church of Lincoln, 4d. To the church of Holcott, 3s. 4d. To the bells there, 12d. The residue of my goods unbequeathed I give to Mare [Mary] my wife and to my son Richard Weder. [Witnesses]: Richard Rogers, parson there, Henry Mathew, Ric: Sayre. Proved 15 May 1537 by the executors [sic—presumably the wife and son]. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 4, folio 87.]

3. Abstract of the Will of Henry Wheler of Cranfilde, co. Bedford, husbandman, dated 15 Sept. 1536. My body shall be buried in the church yard of the parish church of Cranfilde. To the high altar there for tithes forgotten, 2 bushels of barley. To the rood loft, 13s. 4d., and to the bells, 12d. To the brotherhood, a bullock of 2 years. To a priest to pray for my soul, 5s. To Elizabeth my wife, my copyhold with all appurtenances for her life, with remainder to Thomas my son, with remainder in default of his lawful issue to my eldest daughter, with remainder to my other daughters. The rest of my goods unbequeathed to Elizabeth my wife whom I make executrix with William Wheler as executor and I give him 2s. for his labour. I appoint as overseers of my will John Froste and Michael Baker. To Alys Wheler my eldest daughter, 40s. To John Wheler, 40s. To every child that I have being married, a bushel of wheat. [Witnesses:] Sir William Mott, Robt Marth. Proved, 14 March 1537/8 by the executors. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 5, folio 6.]

4. Abstract of the Will of John Wheler of Cranfield, co. Bedford, husbandman, dated 9 Feb. 1566/7. My body shall be buried in the church yard of Cranfield. To the church of Lincoln, 2d. For tithes forgotten, 12d. To the bells, 12d. To the poor man's box, 8d. To the repair of the highways, 3s. 4d., where my executor & supervisor think metest, & to the poor within the parish, 6s. 8d. To Robert Tatha, a yearling bullock. To Agnes my servant, 2 couples of ewes & lambs. To Math-eie Vaux, a red heifer. Whereas the church by my office owes me 20d., I forgive the same. To Robarte Styrme, of Hedborae, all my copyhold land within Cranfield as by surrender to the use of Thomas Wheler my son, his heirs & assigns, according to the custom of

the manor of Cranfeld, he to enter into the same at his age of 21 years, paying out of the same to John my son at his age of 21 years, £10, and within 8 years, £10 more. The rest of my goods unbequeathed I give to Ales my wife, making her sole executrix. I appoint supervisor Robt Styrm, & he shall have 20d. for his pains. [Witnesses:] Wyllm Baker, Wyllm Wheler junor, Rychard Mowse. Proved, 16 April 1567, by the executrix. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 17, folio 28.]

5. Abstract of the Will of William Wheler of Cranfeilde, co. Bedford, dated 9 May 31 Elizabeth [1589]. To Willyam Wheler my son, £20 in money at his age of 21 years, to be paid by Joane my wife, whom I make executrix. To Margaret Wheler my sister, £5 in money payable at her age of 26 years. To Isabell Wheler my sister, £5 in money payable at her age of 26 years. The remainder of the portion of either of my sisters dying under age shall be for the other. To Thomas Burte my servant, one cow bullock of 2 years old, at his marriage. To Willyam Spencer son of Thomas Spencer, one cow bullock of 2 years old, at his age of 21 years. To Richarde my son, 2 horses & a shodde [sic] cart of the price of £5. I surrender my lands to Richard Wheler my son, who shall pay thereout to my son Willyam Wheler £20 in money, £10 at his age of 24 years and £10 at his age of 28 years. The rest of my goods unbequeathed I give to Joane my wife, making her executrix. [Witnesses:] Richard Androe, Willyam Wheler, Tho: Baker sen., Tho: Baker jun., Tho: Spencer. Proved, 11 July 1589, by the executrix. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 18, folio 80.]

6. Abstract of the Will of Richarde Wheeler the elder of Cranfeilde, co. Bedford, husbandman, dated 4 July 1616. My body to be buried at the discretion of my executors. To Lewes Wheeler my third son, fifty pounds payable at his age of 21 years with yearly use for him according to the statute, he having interest for his maintenance after the age of 17 years. To my son Thomas Wheeler, fifty pounds at his age of 21 years, with interest as in the case of Lewes. To Henry Wheeler my son, fifty pounds payable at his age of 21 years, with interest as aforesaid. To my son John Wheeler, forty pounds payable at his age of 21 years, with conditions as aforesaid. To Elizabeth Wheeler, Anne Wheeler & Sarah Wheeler, my daughters, fifty pounds a piece, payable at their ages of 21 years or at marriage, their portions to be set out at interest, and they severally to have the interest of their portions at their ages of 14 years, for their maintenance. I make Willyam Wheeler my son sole executor, & until he attains the age of 21 years I make my wife Elizabeth Wheeler, Josias Chapman & Willyam Woodell of the Elme guardians of my said

son Willyam. I give to my wife all my utensils & household stuff & firewood about my yards. To my eldest son Richarde Wheeler, £10 at his age of seventeen years. To my wife, £10 in money besides. If any of my children die before their portions are due, such portions shall be divided among the rest. To Willyam Woodell & Josias Chapman, fifty shillings a piece for their pains. [No witnesses given in the registered copy of this will.] Administration granted, 8 Oct. 1616, to Elizabeth Wheeler the relict, during the minority of William Wheeler the executor. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 28, folio 209.]

7. Abstract of the Nuncupative Will of Richarde Wheeler of Kempstone, co. Bedford, minister [no date, but probably 1618]. To his son Edward Wheeler, all his books. To his wife Alice Wheeler, the rest of his goods to dispose of them to her children at her discretion, with the advice and oversight of Edward Wheeler his son. [Witnesses:] John Allen, Joane Allen. Proved, 6 Feb. 1618/19, by Alice Wheeler the relict because the testator did not appoint any executor, to whom administration was granted according to the tenor of the will. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 29, folio 15.]

8. Abstract of the Will of John Wheler the elder of East Inn in Cranfield, co. Bedford, yeoman, dated 29 Oct. 1632. To the poor of the parish of Cranfield, 20s. To my son Thomas Wheler, ls. To my son John Wheler, ls. To my son Henry Wheler, ls. To my son William Wheler, ls. To my son George Wheler, ls. To my daughter Alice Fur, ls. To my daughter Jone Wheler, ls. To my daughter Susan Wheler, ls. To my son Ralfe Wheler, all my goods & chattels unbequeathed, & I make him sole executor. I desire my friends Thomas Baker of Cranfield & Thomas Baskerville of Roxell to be overseers. [Witnesses:] Thomas Grubber, Thomas Baker, the mark of John Wheeler. Proved, 7 Jan. 1632/3, by the executor. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Original Will No. 37, no registered copy.]

9. Full copy of the Will of John Wheeler the elder of Cranfield, co. Bedford, yeoman, dated 18 Jan. 1642/3. "In the Name of God Amen, The Eighteenth day of January in the yeare of our Lord God on thousand six hundred fourty and Two I John Wheeler the elder of Cranfield in the County of Bedd: yeoman beeinge weake of body but of good and pfect memory god bee prayssed, Doe make This my Last Will & Testament in Manner & forme followinge. That is to saie first I comend my soule into the hands of god my maker Hopinge assuredly through the only merritts of Jesus christ my saulour To bee made ptaker of leife euerlastinge. And I comend my bodie to the earth whereof it was made. Item whereas I purpose that



John Wheeler the younger my eldest sonne shall have my Coppie hold Land in consideration wherof I give unto my said sonn John Twelve pence of Lawfull mony of England. Item I Give & beequeath vnto Isaack Wheelar an other of my sonns Twelve pence of like Lawfull English money. Item I Give vnto Obadiah Wheeler my sonne Twelve pence of Lawfull money of England. Item I Give & beequeath vnto Mary Barratt my daughter Twelve pence of like Lawfull money. Item I give & beequeath vnto Elizabeth Halsie my daughter Twelve pence of Lawfull English money. Item I Give & beequeath vnto Sarah Nash my daughter Twelve pence of lawfull English money. Item I Give & beequeath vnto Willyam Wheelar an other of my sonns The some of Tenn pounds of Lawfull money of England. Item I give & beequeath vnto Isabell Wheelar an other of my daughters The some of Tenn pounds of like lawfull money. Item I further Give & beequeath vnto Isabell my said daughter & to hir heires & assigns for euer All that One acre of arrable Land beinge freehold Lyinge on the pish of Cranfeild aforesaid in A feild called the Leane feild. Item my Will is that all Thes my guifts & beequeathes To bee paid to my Children beefore mencōned by my Executrix within The space of halfe a yeare next after my decease.

Item I further Give & beequeath vnto Sarah Nash my Grandchild The some of Five pounds of Lawfull English money To bee paid by my Executrix within the space of one yeare next after my decease.

Item I Give & beequeath vnto Obadiah Mouse my Grandchild The some of Five pounds of Lawfull English money To bee paid likewise by my Executrix within the space of one yeare next after my decease.

Item I Give & beequeath vnto the poore of the pish of Cranfeild The some of Twenty shillings of Lawfull money To bee distributed att the discretion of my Executrix. All the rest of my goods & chattells as well reall as psonall Whatsoeuer vnbeequeathed, my Legacies paid & funerall expences pformed, I Give & beequeath vnto Elizabeth my Louinge Weife Whome I make & ordaine my sole executrix of this my Last Will & Testament. In Wittness whearof I The said John Wheelar the Elder To this my Last Will & Testament Have putt to my hand & seale the day And yeare aboue written.

[Signed] John Wheler [seal, not

Sealed & deliuered in the p'sence of heraldic]

Thomas Baker

Robert Hickee [his mark]

Proved, 22 Jan. 1643/4, by the executrix named. [Arch-deaconry Court of Bedford, Register 1642, 1643, 1644, No. 105.]

10. Abstract of the Will of John Wheeler of Dunton, co. Bedford, yeoman, dated 1 June 1651. To my brother Richard Wheeler of Ampthill, £20, payable within three months after the marriage of my wife if she marries again, or if she does not marry again then I give to my said brother £30 payable within one month after my wife's death. To the four daughters of my said brother, Dowglasse, Frances, Ellianor & Alice, £20 to be equally divided among them, payable to my said brother Richard on the same conditions as concern his legacy, for their use. To the children of Robert Brockett by my sister Frances his wife, namely to Robert, Frances & Elizabeth, £5 apiece with reversion to the survivors of the portion of any of them dying. Said portions shall be payable to their father on the same conditions as aforesaid, with £10 more if my wife dies unmarried, within three months after her death. I appoint my wife Mary Wheeler to be my sole executrix & my friends John Cocke, Robert Brockett my brother & Robert Parcell [Partell?] to be overseers & I give them each 10s. The residue of my estate I give to my wife. [Witnesses:] Richard Wortley, John Cocke, the mark of Robert Parcell [Partell?]. Proved, 16 April 1662, by Mary Wheeler the relict and executrix. [Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 148 Bowyer.]

11. Abstract of the Will of Christian Wheeler of Cranfeild, co. Bedford, widow, dated 25 Aug. 1652. To Thomas Wheeler my younger son, my third part of a close in North Crawley, co. Bucks, called Ringtayle, with apurtenances, to hold to him & his heirs & assigns forever on condition that he & they pay to Elizabeth Wheeler & Christian Wheeler, my two daughters, £40 a piece within one year after my death. In default of such payment my said daughters shall occupy & possess said premises till their legacies are satisfied. Whereas George Baker & William Baker, of Cranfield, Gentlemen, possess the other two thirds parts of the close called Ringtayle in trust for my use for certain years to come, I desire that my son Thomas & his heirs shall have the use of the profits of the said two thirds. If the said Thomas dies without issue, my said two daughters shall have the use of such profits & my said trustees George & William Baker shall convey the whole estate to them if they require it. To my eldest son William Wheeler I give one shilling payable within one month after my death. To my said two daughters, all my goods & chattels to be equally divided between them. The residue of my estate to my son Thomas Wheeler, whom I make sole executor. [Signed by the mark of] Christian Wheeler. [Witnesses:] Thomas Baker, Robert Man sent; George Baker, Alice Wheeler her mark. Proved, 15 June 1659, by Thomas Wheeler, son & sole executor. [Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 411 Pell.]

12. Abstract of the Will of Lewis Wheeler of Olney, co. Bucks, yeoman, dated 31 Aug. 1669. To my wife Joane Wheeler, 10s. To my son Joseph Wheeler for his life, two cottages or tenements with appurtenances situated together in Olney, in the occupation of Richard Parker & Anne Tatman, as they are now divided from a cottage in the tenure of Robert Cutlett. After the death of my said son Joseph, I give the same to Lewis Wheeler his son and to the lawful issue of my said grandchild. For default of his issue, I devise the same to the lawful issue of my son Joseph to be begotten. For default of such issue, I give the remainder to my right heirs forever. To Thomas Morgan my son in law & to my daughter Elizabeth his wife, for the term of their lives and of the longer liver of them, the said cottage or tenement in the occupation of the said Robert Cutlett as now divided for the other said cottage in the occupation of Richard Parker. After the death of the longer liver of the said Thomas & Elizabeth, I give the same to Lewis Morgan their third son and his lawfull issue. For default of such issue, I give it to the issue of my said daughter Elizabeth Morgan begotten and to be begotten. For default of such issue, I give the same to the right heirs of the said Elizabeth forever. Provided always that my said son in law Thomas Morgan and his representatives shall pay half of £100 with interest to those persons to whom certain of my cottages in Olney are granted, in default of such payment I give the said cottage in the tenure of Robert Cutlett to my said son Joseph Wheeler for his life, with remainder to my said grandchild Lewis Wheeler and his lawful issue, for default of such issue there shall be remainder to the lawful issue of my said son Joseph to be begotten, and for default of such issue to my right heirs forever. To Sarah Feild my daughter, 10s. To my said son Joseph Wheeler, all my apparel, my great Bible and half of all my leases, goods, cattle and chattels, on condition that he satisfies said moiety of £100 and interest and half of all my other debts and legacies. To the said Thomas Morgan the other half of all my leases, etc., on condition that he and his representatives satisfy the other moiety of my said £100 and interest and half of all my other debts and legacies. I make my son Joseph Wheeler and my son in law Thomas Morgan executors. I appoint as overseers my brother Henry Wheeler & Richard Ashburner, George Clarke & George Mason of Olney and give them 10s. a piece for their pains. [Witnesses:] Willi Greene als Williams, George Mason, Joseph Mason. Proved 10 Nov. 1669, by Joseph Wheeler and Thomas Morgan, the executors named. [Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 159 Coke.]

13. Abstract of the Will of William Wheeler of Marston Moreteyne, co. Bedford, yeoman, dated 7 Feb. 1671/2 [will torn and much damaged]. Mention of brother George Wheeler of Cranfield. Kinsman Joshua Wheeler of Cranfield and his daughter Elizabeth. Son John Wheeler. Cousin Susannah wife of William Teagle. Cousin Susannah wife of ——— Holmes. Cousin Anne Newald. Proved 6 April 1672. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 1671-1672, No. 97.]

14. Abstract of the Will of Henry Wheeler of Cranfield, co. Bedford, yeoman, dated 12 Feb. 1671/2. Son John. Daughter Susan Parrish. Son Henry. Daughter Elizabeth Wheeler, residuary legatee & sole executrix. Brother George Wheeler of Cranfield and kinsman Joshua Wheeler, overseers. Proved 6 April 1672. [Archdeaconry Court of Bedford, Register 1671-1672, No. 99.]

15. Abstract of the Will of George Wheeler of Cranfield, co. Bedford, yeoman, dated 31 May 1688. All my freehold closes, coppices, woods and underwoods (that I purchased of Henry Wodell and others) called the Stockings in Cranfield parish, to my kinsmen Henry Wheeler and his sons John Wheeler, Henry Wheeler and Joshua Wheeler, and their heirs for ever, upon condition that if Thomas Wheeler (son of my brother Thomas Wheeler deceased) pay to the said Henry and his sons the sum of £200, i.e., £50 to Henry the father within a year of my decease and £50 to each of the sons at their ages of 21, then the said premises to remain to the said Thomas Wheeler. All freehold closes etc. (as before) in Cranfeild parish (lately purchased of my kinsman John Wheeler of Marston Mortayne) called Lewsie (except reserved out of this gift one coppice of wood and piece of sward or meadow to the west of the said coppice, lately fenced from the said premises, abutting upon a pigtle of mine called Kingsgrove and to the north upon a close called Flaxmoore) to William Wheeler son of the said John Wheeler of Marston Mortayne, and his heirs for ever, upon condition that William pay to his brother John Wheeler £20 at his age of 21, and to his sister Ann Wheeler £20 at her age of 21. If William Wheeler refuses or neglects to pay the said £40, the said premises are to go to the said John and Anne. All my freehold closes, etc., in Cranfeild parish purchased of Robert Basterfield and called Roxons, and the coppice and meadow excepted out of my closes called Lewsie, I give and devise to my kinswoman Susan wife of Stephen Parrish of Cranfeild and her heirs for ever, provided that if Thomas Wheeler pay her £10 a year quarterly, he shall have the premises. And whereas I have on 30th April 1688 surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor of Cranfeild by the hands of William Odell a customary tenant and one of the headborrowes[?] of the

manor All my messuage in Eastend in the parish of Cranfeild, where I now dwell, with gardens and land adjoining and two closes of pasture called the Home Closes and all my copyhold woodground at the nether end of the said home closes and all my close called Flaxmoore, and all that close of arable land and sward called Burningale, to the uses expressed in my will, Now I will the said surrender to be to the proper use of my kinsfolk, Joshua Wheeler the elder of Cranfeild, Mary Wodell of the same, widow, Elizabeth the wife of William Teagle of Shenley, co. Buckingham, Susan Holmes now or late of Milton, co. Buckingham, Ralph Firr, William Firr his brother, and William Firr, Ralph's son, Ann wife of William Bass of Cranfeild, and Mary wife of George Baker of Ridgemount, co. Bedford, to them and their heirs for ever, provided that if Thomas Wheeler aforesaid pay within three months after my decease to the said Joshua Wheeler, Mary Wodell, Elizabeth Teagle, Susan Holmes, Ralph Firr, William Firr the elder, William Firr the younger, Ann Bass and Mary Baker, £250, that is, £120 to Joshua, £40 to Mary, £20 to Elizabeth, £20 to Susan, and £10 each to Ralph, William, William, Ann and Mary, the surrender to be void. And whereas I have also upon 30th April 1688 surrendered (as above) all my copyhold arable land and sward in the common feilds of Cranfeild, about 33 acres 1 1/2 roods, to the use of my kinsfolk John, Henry, George, Joseph, Susan, Joane, Elizabeth, Sara and Mary Wheeler (the nine children of my kinsman John Wheeler of Cranfeild deceased) and to their heirs, provided that if the aforesaid Thomas Wheeler pay them £140, that is, to John £50, to Henry £30, to George £30, to Joseph £30, all at their several ages of 21, and to Susan, Joane, Elizabeth, Sara and Mary, £100 equally divided between them, each at their ages of 21—then the surrender to be void and the lands to remain to the said Thomas Wheeler and his heirs for ever. To my kinsman Robert Firr, 10s., and to his sister Ann, £4 10s. To my kinswoman Ann Newold wife of John Newold late of Kempston, £10. To the sons and daughters of the said John and Ann Newold, £30 equally divided between them. To my kinsman Thomas Wheeler of Burkett in the parish of Wing, co. Buckingham, £5, and to his brother William Wheeler, £5. To my kinsman George Wheeler of Bedford, £5, and to his sister Joan, £5, and to his sister Phebe, £5, and to his sister Mary, £5. To my said kinswoman Susan Parrish a chair, a table, &c. The residue of my estate to my said kinsman Thomas Wheeler (son of my brother Thomas Wheeler deceased), and I make him sole executor. (Signed) George Wheeler. (Witnesses:) Thomas Edwards, Peter Edwards, Mary Edwards. Proved, 8 Feb. 1689/90, by the executor named. [Arch-deaconry Court of Bedford, Register 1689, No. 89.]

Friends' Records: Hitchin Monthly MeetingBirths

- Wheeler, Elizabeth, born 1660-5-19, daughter of Joshua & Constant, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Joshua, born 1665-5-2, son of Joshua & Constant, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Sarah, born 1703-1-11, daughter of Joshua & Ann, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Joshua, born 1704-3-18, son of Joshua & Ann, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Elizabeth, born 1727-3-10, daughter of Joshua & Elizabeth, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Rudd, born 1728-7-23, son of Joshua & Elizabeth, Cranfield.

Marriages

- Wheeler, Joshua, & Ann Mason, married 1701-7-3, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Ann, & Robert King, married 1720-4-3, Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Joshua, & Elizabeth Rudd of Hitchin, married 1726-6-18, Hitchin.  
Wheeler, Sarah, & William Squire, married 1728 [no mo. and day], Cranfield.

Deaths

- Wheeler, Alice, widow, died 1668-8-28 at Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Constance, wife of Joshua, died 1700-5-13, at Cranfield.  
Wheeler, Joshua, Sen<sup>r</sup>, died 1712-1-18, aged 76, at Cranfield.

Addendum to Chapter II.  
(See ante, vol. 27, p. 123)

Add: Burials, 1606 Ruth dau. of John Wheeler, 21 Oct.

Note

The will of Thomas Wheler "sen." or "the elder" of Cranfield, dated 7 Dec. 1627, codicil 18 June 1633, proved 24 Feb. 1634 [1634/5], is omitted herein, having been printed in full, ante, vol. 14, pp. 2-4, to which we refer readers interested in this family.



NEW LIGHT ON ESDRAS READE, TAILOR

By George E. McCracken, Ph.D., Des Moines, Iowa

In the course of an attempt to identify the parents of Dr. Philip Reade, of Concord, there appeared to be reasonable support for the belief that he might have been son of Deacon Esdras Reade, tailor, who lived successively at Boston, Salem, Wenham, Chelmsford, again at Boston, and Woburn, to die in Boston on 27 July 1680 aged 85, buried in the Copp's Hill Burying Ground. As the result of the investigation, I was forced to abandon this possibility, but produced a body of new material of interest to descendants of the tailor.

The Clue for primary research on Esdras Reade was found in Dr. C. E. Banks' Topographical Dictionary of 2885 English Emigrants to New England, 1620-1650 (Philadelphia, 1937), p. 170, where it is stated that Esdras Reade was of the Parish of St. Mary Overy, Southwark, Surrey, and a reference given to the same author's manuscripts now in the Rare Book Room of the Library of Congress. Therein was found a brief note reporting the marriage in the Parish of St. Magnus Martyr on 18 Oct. 1621 of Elizabeth Watson, of that parish, to Esdras Reade, of the Parish of St. Mary Overy, Southwark. Dr. Banks had apparently made no investigation of the latter parish.

An investigation was therefore carried on for me by H. J. Willis, Esq., of London, a retired banker turned professional genealogist but now forced to give up the work owing to impairment of vision. Mr. Willis verified Dr. Banks' record of the marriage, but found that the parish in which it occurred was that of St. Michael's, Crooked Lane, which has been merged with St. Magnus Martyr.

The registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials of the Parish of St. Mary Overie, now called St. Saviour's, Southwark, were examined between 1621, when the marriage took place, and 1638, the date of Esdras Reade's first appearance in America. No marriages were found that could clearly be connected with Esdras Reade but there were six baptisms and six burials, the latter of persons bearing names of known relatives but not specified as related to him.

In the case of the six baptisms, the occupation of Esdras Reade, the father (mother's name omitted uniformly), was given in five instances as tailor, in the sixth as brewer. No other reference to the brewer was found anywhere in these registers. Other Reade families were found to be living in the parish, perhaps related to Esdras, for both James Reade and Esdras Reade had sons named Philip.

One of the burials was of a person named Elizabeth Reade, age and marital status not given, who was buried on 10 Oct. 1629; that is, before two of the baptisms. If she was Elizabeth (Watson) Reade, there is no record in this parish of any second marriage of Esdras to a second wife, though it has been generally assumed, upon what evidence I do not know, that the wife who crossed the Atlantic with Esdras was named Alice; and that he had still another wife about 1661 named Sarah can be demonstrated.

Further attempts were to be made by Mr. Willis to verify the information given on Esdras Reade's ancestry published in The Reade Record 10 (1917) 7, and to find a will of his father, but this project has been suspended owing to Mr. Willis' forced retirement. A suit was brought in 1633 by Esdras Reade, tailor, of London, against his uncle, John Reade, husbandman, of Sutton Mallet, Parish of Moorlinch, Somersetshire, from which records it was determined that Esdras was son of Esdras Reade (d. ca. 1611) and of his wife Bathsheba (d. ca. 1630), and that the elder Esdras was son of the widow Agnes Reade, living at Sutton Mallet in 1583. On Esdras Reade in Massachusetts, see Charles French Read (New England Hist. and Gen. Register 60:137-9); Alanson H. Reed (*ibid.* 63:200 f.); James Savage, Genealogical Dictionary of New England 3:515 f.; Charles H. Pope, Pioneers of Massachusetts p. 380; and Jacob Whittmore Reed, History of the Reed Family in Europe and in America (Boston, 1861), p. 151 (Esdras) and p. 272 (where Esdras is described as "Elias"). The last-named reference is filled with the worst sort of error, at least in regard to Esdras Reade.

The children of Esdras Reade, tailor or brewer, were as follows:

- i. Elizabeth, bapt. 29 Aug. 1622, Southwark; probably the child, father not named, buried 15 Feb. 1622/3.
- ii. Sarah, bapt. 8 Jan. 1623/4, Southwark; probably the child, father not named, buried 17 Sept. 1624.
- iii. Philip, bapt. 25 July 1625, Southwark; probably the child, father not named, buried 26 Dec. 1626. Another Philip Reade, son of James, was bapt. in this parish in 1621, but by 1626 he would hardly have been called an infant.
- 1 iv. Rebecca, bapt. 27 Sept. 1627, Southwark; father's occupation given as brewer; d. before 25 Dec. 1702.
- v. Jonathan, bapt. 22 Dec. 1631, Southwark; probably the infant, father not named, buried 27 Dec. 1631.
- vi. Jonathan, bapt. 13 Aug. 1635, Southwark; probably the infant, father not named, buried 18 Aug. 1635.
- 2 vii. Bethia, b. ca. 1637-8, bapt. 31 May 1640, Salem, Mass.; d. Canterbury, Conn., 2 Dec. 1717.
- 3 viii. Obadiah, b. 1640, bapt. 31 May 1640, Salem; d. Boston, 19 Feb. 1721/2 in 82nd year.

1. Rebecca<sup>2</sup> Reade, fourth child of Esdras<sup>1</sup> Reade and his first wife Elizabeth Watson, was the eldest child to survive childhood. Presumably she was one of the family of four for whom Esdras Reade, tailor, received a grant of a lot at Muddy River when he was admitted an inhabitant of Boston on 24 Dec. 1638 (Boston Town Records 1634-1660: Book of Possessions, p. 36). At a court held at Salem on 17 Sept. 1650, one Joshua Ray was charged with "abusing the body of Rebecca Read in an uncomely manner with a stick" and was admonished and fined (Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Mass. 1:196; Mary E. N. Backus, The New England Ancestry of Dana Converse Backus [1949] p. 143 f.). A Rebecca Read married Joseph<sup>2</sup> Parkhurst, son of George<sup>1</sup> Parkhurst, on 26 June 1656 at Concord, marriage recorded not at Concord but at Chelmsford, the residence of both parties. Charles H. Parkhurst, A Fragment of the Parkhurst Genealogy (Providence, 1883) p. 3, wrongly calls her Mary. Joseph Parkhurst was born 21 Dec. 1629 and died 30 Nov. 1709, his wife Rebecca having died before 25 Dec. 1702 (see Backus, *op. cit.* pp. 129 f.). Mrs. Backus points out to me that if the Rebecca Read who married Joseph Parkhurst was the daughter of Esdras, she was nearly 29 years of age at her marriage, and to Mrs. Backus this seems an insuperable objection.

Children (Parkhurst):

- i. Mary, b. 10 Aug. 1657; m. Thomas Bloggett, 29 June 1683.
- ii. Rebecca, b. 14 Aug. 1659.
- iii. Joseph, b. 12 Jan. 1661/2; d. 11 Dec. 1720; m. Eunice Spaulding, 4 Nov. 1686.
- iv. Abigail, b. 11 Mar. 1664/5.
- v. (perhaps) Ebenezer, d. 9 Nov. 1745, Chelmsford.

2. Bethia<sup>2</sup> Reade, seventh child of Esdras<sup>1</sup> Reade by an uncertain mother, perhaps Elizabeth Watson, perhaps Alice ———, was born in 1637 or 1638, probably before the arrival of the family at Boston late in 1638. She was baptized at Salem on 31 May 1640, together with her brother Obadiah, neither child being named. On 1 Feb. 1656/7 she was, also with her brother, presented by their father to the church at Chelmsford, at which time her age is stated to be about nineteen. The absence of her sister Rebecca from this record (S. A. Green's Extracts from the Note Book of the Rev. John Fiske 1637-1675 [Cambridge, 1898]) is explained by the fact that Rebecca had already been married in the previous June (see above). Bethia married, at Woburn, on 28 Apr. 1657, John<sup>2</sup> Johnson, son of Capt. Edward<sup>1</sup> Johnson. John Johnson was baptized at Canterbury, England, 10 May 1635, and died about 1720 at Canterbury, Conn.

Bethia died 2 Dec. 1717 at Canterbury, Conn. The wife of John<sup>2</sup> Johnson has sometimes been called daughter of William and Mabel Reade, of Woburn, but they had no such daughter (see Alfred Johnson, History and Genealogy of One Line of Descent from Captain Edward Johnson [Boston, 1914], pp. 62 f., especially the note).

Children (Johnson), all born Woburn save Joseph:

- i. John, b. 24 Jan. 1658/9; m. Mary Carlev, daughter of William and Jane, of Lexington.
- ii. Bethia, b. 20 Jan. 1659/60; m. (1) Jonathan Knight, (2) in 1697 or earlier, Joseph Woolcott, both husbands of Cambridge.
- iii. William, b. 29 Sept. 1662; d. Canterbury, 23 Sept. 1713; m. at Cambridge, 18 Feb. 1690/1, Mary Cooke.
- iv. Obadiah, b. Woburn, 15 June 1664.
- v. Joseph, b. ca. 1666, not in Woburn Vital Records; m. Elizabeth —, who d. 11 Dec. 1724; he d. probably 16 Mar. 1755.
- vi. Samuel, b. 29 Oct. 1670.
- vii. Nathaniel, b. 15 May 1673.

3. Obadiah<sup>2</sup> Reade, eighth child (and the only son who survived to have issue) of Esdras<sup>1</sup> Reade by an uncertain mother, perhaps Elizabeth Watson, perhaps Alice —, was almost certainly born at Salem, Mass., in the spring of 1640, and was baptized, together with his sister Bethia, at Salem on 31 May 1640, their names not being given. John Fiske recorded his age on 1 Feb. 1656/7 as about seventeen. He died in Boston on 19 Feb. 1721/2, in his 82nd year. He married at Dorchester, Mass., 19 Aug. 1664, Anna Swift, whom Savage [3: 517] wrongly calls daughter of Obadiah Swift, though he corrects the matter [4:241] by calling her daughter of Thomas Swift of Dorchester. She died 13 Sept. 1681 aged 33, having been born at Dorchester, 16 Nov. 1647. Obadiah Reade married secondly, Elizabeth Broughton, daughter of Thomas, born at Watertown, 15 Jan. 1645/6, died at Boston, 26 Feb. 1712/13 aged 67. The name of the first wife is given as Susanna in the record of the baptisms of her two sons named Obadiah.

Children of Obadiah and Anna (Swift) Reade:

- i. Elizabeth<sup>3</sup>, b. 29 Mar. 1669.
- ii. Sarah, b. 16 Apr. 1671; d. young.
- iii. Ann, b. 3 Feb. 1672/3.
- iv. Obadiah, b. 29 Nov. 1677, called son of Susanna; d. soon unless this is a duplicate entry for the next child. The printed Boston records contain many errors.
- v. Obadiah, b. 29 Nov. 1678, called son of Susanna; d. v.
- vi. James, b. 29 Feb. 1680/1.

## Children of Obadiah and Elizabeth (Broughton) Reade:

- vii. Obadiah, b. 27 Mar. 1683.
- viii. Mary, b. 4 May 1684.
- ix. Nathaniel, b. 23 Aug. 1686.
- x. Sarah, b. 26 Jan. 1688/9.

NATHAN GORHAM OF CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT

By Gerald James Parsons, M.S. (L.S.), Rochester, N.Y.

The printed Gorham genealogies record only the birth of a son Nathan to Jabez and Leah (Littlefield) Gorham at Bristol, R.I., 8 Jan. 1725/6, giving no further data concerning this man. However, Nathan Gorham removed to Canterbury, Conn., and left numerous descendants including a son Ephraim Gorham, an early and prominent settler of Elbridge, Onondaga County, N.Y. Mr. W. Herbert Wood of New Haven, Conn., formerly of Elbridge, spent a great amount of time on this branch of the Gorham family, and credit must go to him for the original research. Mr. Wood kindly lent his notes and papers to the writer, who assembled them and added to them with research of his own to form a partial genealogy of the descendants of Ephraim Gorham. The present article, however, has been limited to the family in Canterbury and two generations thereafter.

1. Nathan<sup>4</sup> Gorham, son of Jabez<sup>3</sup> (Jabez<sup>2</sup>, Capt John<sup>1</sup>) and Leah (Littlefield) Gorham, was born 8 Jan. 1725/6 at Bristol, R.I., and was baptized there in St. Michael's Church, 30 Jan. 1725/6. He married 14 May 1751, at South Kingstown, R.I., by the Rev. Joseph Torrey, Congregational minister of the Church of Christ, Susanna Kelly, whose parentage has not been determined. They settled at Canterbury, Conn., where the births of their children are recorded, but may have lived for a short time at Groton, Conn., before proceeding to Canterbury. Two sisters of Nathan also settled in Canterbury. Mary Gorham, baptized at Bristol, 10 Oct. 1721, married first, 30 May 1738, Samuel Osborne, and second, 12 May 1755, at South Kingstown, Silas Harris, removed to Canterbury with her second husband. The other sister, Deborah Gorham, baptized at Bristol, 24 Sept. 1732, died at Canterbury, in August 1792, unmarried.

Nathan Gorham served in the French and Indian War and appears in Capt. John Durkee's 9th Company, Col. Eleazer Fitch's 3rd Conn. Regt., 1758, and in Capt. Christopher Palmer's 11th Company, Col. Eleazer Fitch's 4th Conn. Regt., 24 Mar. to 22 Nov. 1760. Nathan Gorham appears in the land records of Canterbury from 1757

to 1768, after which date no record has been found. Nathan and Susanna undoubtedly died at Canterbury. The records of the First Church of Brooklyn, Conn., give the death of the "wife of \_\_\_\_\_ Goram" 17 Feb. 1776. This could very well be the death record for Susanna; if it is, then Nathan would seem to have survived her, since the designation wife, not widow, was used. It also seems likely that Nathan died by 1781, the year in which his sons sold the Gorham lands in Canterbury and ceased to reside there.

Children, births recorded at Canterbury, Conn.:

- 2 i. Joseph, b. 28 Sept. 1751.
- 3 ii. Ephraim, b. 31 Mar. 1753.
- iii. Nathan, b. 10 Sept. 1757; according to the records of First Church, Brooklyn, Conn., under date of 12 Oct. 1776, "Nathan Goram lately died in ye Army."
- 4 iv. George, b. 19 July 1759.
- v. Jabez, b. 19 May 1765; served in Revolution from West-hampton, Mass.; probably died in service or soon after. (See Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution, 6:544.)

References: Canterbury Vital Records; Deaths 1770-1824, First Church records, Brooklyn, Conn. (at Connecticut State Library); Canterbury Land Records, 6:279, 327, 358; 7:237, 413; Collections of the Conn. Hist. Society, 10:65, 220; New England Hist. and Gen. Register, 54:169; Rhode Island Hist. Society Collections, 18:110.

2. Joseph Gorham, son of Nathan and Susanna (Kelly) Gorham, was born 28 Sept. 1751, recorded at Canterbury, Conn. He married at Canterbury, 8 Jan. 1773, Hannah Staples, who was born at Pomfret, Conn., 9 Aug. 1749, and died at Montgomery, Mass., Oct. 1829, daughter of Jacob and Eunice (Cady) Staples. Joseph Gorham settled at Montgomery, Mass., where he was living 5 Feb. 1781 [Canterbury L.R. 8:439]. He died there 16 Dec. 1825, aged 76 years (gravestone).

Children, first two born at Canterbury, the rest at Montgomery:

- i. John, b. 7 Nov. 1774; d. 13 Apr. 1825, Montgomery, Mass.; m. there (int. 4 Jan. 1798), Molly Maynard.
- ii. Susanna, b. 8 May 1777; d. 12 Mar. 1851; m. (int. 13 Nov. 1796, Montgomery), Elisha Shurtliff.
- iii. Luther, b. 1 Aug. 1783; m. (int. 14 Dec. 1807, Montgomery), Sophia Herrick.
- iv. Nathan, b. 15 Nov. 1785; d. 2 Apr. 1814; m. (int. 7 June 1807, Montgomery), Hannah Noble.
- v. Eunice, b. 20 Dec. 1791; m. (int. 29 Oct. 1808, Montgomery), Calvin Gorham.

Note: Hannah Staples had a daughter Mary born 12 Jan. 1771, in Canterbury, who after Hannah's marriage to Joseph Gorham went by



the name of Gorham. However, it has never been determined whether Joseph Gorham was her father. Mary married 17 May 1792, Asa Shurtliff.

References: Vital Records of Canterbury, Conn.; Canterbury Land Records, 8:193, 432, 433, 439; 9:41, 184; Vital Records of Montgomery, Mass., to 1850 (1902), 20, 43, 62; Allen, O.P., Descendants of Nicholas Cady (1910), 55-56.

3. Ephraim Gorham, son of Nathan and Susanna (Kelly) Gorham, was born 31 Mar. 1753, recorded at Canterbury, Conn. He married Sarah Staples, who was born at Pomfret, Conn., 24 Aug. 1754, and died at Elbridge, N.Y., in May 1841, aged 84 (gravestone), daughter of Jacob and Eunice (Cady) Staples.

Ephraim Gorham served in the Revolutionary War and appeared on the return of Captain Elderkin's Company, Canterbury, 1776. On 5 Feb. 1781, Ephraim Gorham of Canterbury, Conn., Joseph Gorham and George Gorham of Montgomery, Mass., sold 18 acres of land in Canterbury to John Brown of Canterbury [Canterbury L.R. 8:439]. This deed was acknowledged by all three at Montgomery, Mass., 7 May 1781. The last deed for Ephraim Gorham in Canterbury is dated 26 March 1781 [*ibid.* 10:26], and it seems probable that he had removed to Montgomery by 7 May 1781. However, Ephraim did not stay long in Montgomery. He is not found in the 1790 Census but was living in New York State in May 1794 (when his youngest son was born), probably in Montgomery County, where he appeared shortly thereafter.

In 1803 Ephraim Gorham and his family settled at Elbridge, at that time a part of the town of Camillus, Onondaga County, N.Y., where he bought his first land 26 June 1804 [Onondaga Co. L.R., D:38]. He owned a large tract situated mostly on lot 92 in the town of Elbridge, and it is said that this tract was a mile square, probably an exaggeration. On 20 Feb. 1811, Ephraim Gorham of Camillus, Onondaga Co., N.Y., sold to Ebenezer Cady of Brooklyn, Conn., a certain tract of land (2 acres and 90 rods) lying in the southwest corner of Brooklyn, "being a lot of land set out to Sarah Gorham wife of sd Ephraim in the lands set out for dower in the estate of her father Jacob Staples to her mother Eunice Staples late Eunice Withy dec'd" [Brooklyn, Conn., L.R. 4:189].

In the petition of the executors, John and Shubael Gorham, of the estate of Ephraim Gorham, dated 11 Oct. 1830, there is mentioned the widow Sally; children, Nathan, Shubael, Sally, wife of Samuel Pierce, Isaac and John [Letters of Administration, AA:30, Onondaga Co. Surrogate's Office, Syracuse, N.Y.]. Ephraim Gorham died 23 Aug. 1830, aged 76 (gravestone), at El-

bridge, N.Y. He and his wife are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Elbridge.

Children:

- i. Elizabeth, b. abt. 1779, Canterbury, Conn.; d. 29 Apr. 1814 ae. 34 (g.s.); bur. Meech Cemetery, town of Brutus, Cayuga Co., N.Y.; m. Henry Meech, who d. 13 Aug. 1848 ae. 74-3-25 (g.s.); bur Meech Cemetery.
- ii. Nathan, b. 8 Oct. 1780, Canterbury, Conn.; d. 4 Jan. 1846, in 66th yr. (g.s.), Elbridge, N.Y.; m. 5 July 1803, at West Galway, Fulton Co., N.Y. (at which time he was of Amsterdam, N.Y.), Tryphena Harmon, b. 28 Mar. 1783, Bennington, Vt.; d. 28 Oct. 1861, Elbridge, dau. of Caius and Mary (Parsons) Harmon.
- iii. Shubael, b. abt. 1782, in Mass., probably at Montgomery; d. 14 Mar. 1857, in 76th yr. (g.s.), Elbridge, N.Y.; m. Mary ———, b. abt. 1790, Saratoga Co., N. Y. He served in War of 1812 as a Private in Capt. Michael Redman's Co., 9 Nov. to 22 Nov. 1814.
- iv. Sarah (also called Sally), b. 29 July 1783, probably at Montgomery, Mass.; d. 5 Aug. 1856 ae. 73-0-7 (g.s.), Elbridge, N.Y.; m. 23 Aug. 1807, Samuel Pierce, b. 27 Mar. 1783; d. 3 May 1860, Elbridge.
- v. Isaac, b. ———; was of Elbridge, 26 June 1837; no further record.
- vi. John, b. 14 May 1794, in New York State; d. 9 June 1864 ae. 70 (g.s.), Savannah, Wayne Co., N.Y.; bur Butler-Savannah Cemetery, South Butler, N.Y.; m. (1) 28 June 1815, Amy Stanton, b. 7 Oct. 1795; d. 24 Apr. 1835 ae. 39 (g.s.), dau. of Daniel and Dinah (Slater) Stanton; m. (2) 6 Sept. 1835, Polly Ann (Palmer) Cushman, b. 1797, Throop, Cayuga Co., N.Y., d. 11 May 1863 ae. 66 (g.s.), Savannah, widow of David Cushman and dau. of Prentice and Mary Ann (Dunning) Palmer. John Gorham served in the War of 1812 for about 3 months (27 Aug. to 8 Nov. 1814) at Fort Erie and Buffalo, under Lt.-Col. Hugh W. Dobbins, Capt. John Richardson's Co.; settled at Savannah, N.Y., about 1830, returned to Elbridge in 1837, and back to Savannah in 1846, where he was a prominent and wealthy inhabitant.

References: Allen, O.P., Descendants of Nicholas Cady (1910), 55-56; Beauchamp, W.M., Revolutionary Soldiers Resident or Dying in Onondaga Co., N.Y. (1913), 41; Canterbury, Conn., Land Records, 8:193, 432, 433, 439, 457; 9:260; 10:26; Collections of the Conn. Hist. Society, 12:19; Cowles, G.W., Landmarks of Wayne County, New York (1895), pt. 1:350; pt. 3:11, 229; Gorham, John, personal papers, including War of 1812 record and his family Bible, in possession of the author; Harmon, A.C., The Harmon Genealogy (1920), 190; McIntosh, W.H., History of Wayne County, N.Y. (1877), 161; Onondaga County, N.Y., Land Records, D:38; I:356; T:226; 71:386; Pierce, F.B., Pierce Genealogy (1882), 149.

4. George Gorham, son of Nathan and Susanna (Kelly) Gorham, was born 19 July 1759, recorded at Canterbury,

Conn. He married Mary Wells. He served in the Revolution from Hampshire County, Mass., being engaged for the town of Norwich in 1779 and for the town of Southampton in 1781 [see Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War, 6:644].

George Gorham died 17 Nov. 1848, aged 89-3-28, at Montgomery, Mass., where he had settled by 1781. His death record at Montgomery says he was born at Groton, Conn., son of George and Susan Gorham, but his father's name is recorded incorrectly.

Children, born at Montgomery, Mass.:

- i. Anna, b. 28 Mar. 1781; m. (int. 30 Nov. 1806, Montgomery), Abner Ferry.
- ii. Polly, b. 14 Aug. 1784.
- iii. Calvin, b. 14 Oct. 1790; m. (1) (int. 29 Oct. 1808, Montgomery), Eunice Gorham; m. (2) 7 June 1845, Montgomery, Hannah Fuller.
- iv. Charles, b. 1 Apr. 1792; m. 29 Feb. 1816, Montgomery, Orpha Bosworth.
- v. Elisha, b. 28 Dec. 1796; m. (1) Parmela or Pamela \_\_\_\_\_; m. (2) 12 Mar. 1827, Montgomery, Almira Pelton.

References: Canterbury, Conn., Land Records, 8:432, 433, 439; Vital Records of Montgomery, Mass., to 1850 (1902), 20, 43, 62.

#### MIDDLEFIELD, MASS., CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH RECORDS

Furnished by Edward Church Smith, Lakewood, Ohio

In tracing the movements of pioneer families from Massachusetts and Connecticut into the Berkshire Hill region and on to New York and Ohio, the authors of the History of Middlefield, Mass. (Smith, 1924), found valuable information in the membership lists of the Middlefield Congregational Church. The names and dates give some indication of the periods of arrival and removal, and the localities cited indicate the whence and whither of these migrations. In offering these transcripts we gratefully express our indebtedness to Mrs. Edna G. Smith of Lakewood, Ohio, who carefully copied them from the original first record book of the church in Middlefield.

The Middlefield Congregational Church was started Nov. 16, 1783 by sixteen devoted members. They chose Daniel Chapman and Malachi Loveland as Deacons. David Mack and Job Robbins were also chosen Deacons two days later. In the absence of a settled pastor, no further members were added until the first minister, Rev. Jonathan Nash, was called Aug. 2, 1792. He served until July 11, 1832, nearly forty years.

Middlefield Congregational Church

Constituent Members Received, November 16, 1783

- |                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sarah Taylor [w. of John Taylor]     | Asa Brown       |
| Mary Mack [prob. da. of David Mack]  | Anson Cheeseman |
| Elizabeth Brown [w. of Asa Brown]    | Daniel Chapman  |
| Lucy Chapman [w. of Daniel Chapman]  | Oliver Bates    |
| Mary Mann                            | David Mack      |
| Job Robbins                          | Berzela Wright  |
| Elizabeth Blish [w. of Joseph Blish] | Joseph Blish    |
| David Bolton                         | John Taylor     |
- 
- 1792 Samuel Jones  
 John Dickson  
 Rachel, w. of Joseph Cary  
 John Jones & Hannah, his wife  
 Timothy Allen
- 1793 Achsah Coleman [w. of Dr. William Coleman]  
 Cyrus Cone  
 David Carrier & w. [Rebecca]  
 John Damon  
 Phebe Church [w. of Uriah Church Sr.]
- 1794 Dr. William Coleman  
 Mary, w. of Moses Eggleston  
 Jane, w. of Timothy McElwain  
 Anna, w. of Jesse Graham  
 Hannah, w. of Wm. Graham
- 1795 Samuel Jones Jr. & w. [Betsy]  
 Eunice, w. of [Rev.] Jonathan Nash  
 Orris Clapp & w. [Phebe]  
 Wm. Taylor & w. [Priscilla]  
 Benjamin Cheeseman  
 Mary, w. of Solomon Root
- 1796 John Mechem
- 1799 Silas Clarke  
 Susanna, w. of John Spencer  
 Thankful, w. of Robert Bissell  
 Anna, w. of Elkanah Vining  
 Phebe, w. of Silas Clarke
- 1801 Sally, w. of John Ward  
 Elisha Mack  
 Rebecca, w. of Samuel Little  
 Elihu Mason  
 Hannah Blish [da. Benjamin & Phebe (Skinner)]  
 Lucy Ford [da. John & Jemima (Cary)]

- Lucina Ford [da. John & Jemima (Cary)]  
Oliver Crowell
- 1802 Melinda, w. of Erastus Graves  
Lucy, w. of Samuel Spencer  
John Spencer  
Solomon Ingham  
Jude Wright  
Gideon Russell Jr.  
Luther Wright  
David Mack Jr.  
John Ingham  
Amasa Graves  
Philip Vadican  
Anna Shapley w. of John S[hapley]  
Lois Coates [da. John & Mehitable]  
Annis Stebbins [m. Abner Cary]  
Hannah Bangs [m. Ebenezer Fales]  
Polly Spencer [m. James Coates]  
Anna Hotchkiss [m. Mr. Bradley]  
Lydia Jones  
Susanna Spencer [da. John & Susannah (White)]  
Sally Bird [m. Amasa Graves Jr.]  
Oliver Maryfield & Experience his w.  
Molly, w. of Elam Vining  
Jerusha Norcott [w. or da. of John]  
Nabby Cheeseman [da. Benjamin & Sarah (Howe)]  
Tabatha, w. of Henry Vadican
- 1803 Rebecca, w. of [Rev.] Jonathan Nash
- 1804 Wife [Azubah] of Isaac Gleason  
Eleanor, w. of Elijah Churchill  
Polly, w. of Job Robbins Jr.
- 1807 Polly, w. of Joseph Little  
Samuel Little  
Nabby, w. of Philip Meacham
- 1808 Parker Fellows  
Sally Pease, w. of Dan Pease  
Betsey Damon [da. John & Prudence (Bissell)]  
Beulah White [prob. da. Elijah & Beulah (Walker)]  
Deborah, w. of Ansel Ford
- 1809 Erastus Ingham and w. Elizabeth  
Nathan Wright  
John Smith and w. Lucy
- 1810 Polly, w. of Gad Pease  
Waitta, w. of Stephen Graves

<u>Name</u>	<u>Members Received by Letter</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place*</u>
Abel Cheeseman & w. [Mary]		Dec. 30, 1792	Pittsfield
John Meacham & w. [Lucia]		Jan. 6, 1793	Enfield [Conn.]
Wife [Mehitable] of John Coates		Jan. 6, 1793	Lenox
Josiah Leonard & w. [Elizabeth]		Feb. 10, 1793	W. Springfield
Jemima Russell [w. of Gideon Russell Jr.]		Feb. 10, 1793	S. Hadley
Ezra Jones & w. [Mary]		Mar. 10, 1793	Enfield [Conn.]
Abel West & w. [Hannah]		July 7, 1793	Bolton [Conn.]
Piercy West [da. David & Bethia (Randall)]		July 7, 1793	Tolland [Conn.]
Rosanna, w. of Jude Wright		July 7, 1793	S. Hampton
Asa Cary		Sept. 29, 1793	Williamsburg
James Dickson & w. Margaret		July 4, 1792	[from E. Haddam, Conn.]
Samuel Woods		July 4, 1792	[perhaps Worthington]
Bethiah, w. of David West		Nov. 10, 1793	Bolton, Conn.
Samuel Gray & w.		Mar. 16, 1794	Becket
Alexander Loomis		Sept. 7, 1794	S. Hampton
Samuel Woods & w. [Phebe]		Nov. 29, 1795	Worthington
Rhoda, w. of Edward Little		Mar. 13, 1796	Williamsburg
Anson Cheeseman & w. Elizabeth		Aug. 12, 1796	[from Braintree]
Wife [Nancy] of Bickar Jones		Apr. 7, 1799	Buckland
Mary, w. of James Holland		Apr. 15, 1801	Chester
Hannah, w. of Enoch Crowell		Oct. 18, 1801	Lee
Bethuel Stebbins & w. [Patience]		Mar. 6, 1803	Monson
Justice Olds & w. [Mary]		Apr. 10, 1803	Southwick
Independence, w. of David Mack Jr.		Sept. 9, 1804	Somers, Conn.
Joseph Moore & w. [Zibea]		Jan. 13, 1805	Southwick
Polly, w. of Nathan Wright		Mar. 30, 1806	Chester
Zachariah Field & w. Priscilla		Mar. 8, 1807	Partridgefield
Olive, w. of Peter Pinney		Mar. 6, 1808	Chester
Stephen Wood & w. Lydia		May 7, 1809	Salem, N.Y.



Mrs. Eleanor Parsons, Widow [of Joshua]	Sept. 3, 1809	Palmer
Ruth, w. Stephen Parsons	Sept. 3, 1809	Brookfield & Palmer
Polly, w. of David Tuttle	April 8, 1810	Peru
<u>Members Dismissed by Letter</u>		
Abel West & w. Hannah	Oct. 1, 1797	Washington
David Carrier & w. [Rebecca]	Sept. 23, 1798	[Conway]
Widow Hannah Jones [widow of John]	Apr. 5, 1801	Buckland
Jemima, w. of Benajah Jones	June 20, 1802	Partridgefield
Elihu Mason	--	W. Springfield
Luther White	Feb. 2, 1806	Swanton, Vermont
Anna Hotchkiss (now Anna Bradley)	Apr. 6, 1806	Bristol, Conn.
Thankful, w. of Robert Bissell	May 18, 1806	[moved to Aurora, O.]
Miranda, w. of Erastus Graves	May 18, 1806	[prob. to Cato, N.Y.]
Mary, w. of Benjamin Eggleston	May 31, 1807	[moved to Aurora, O.]
Sally, w. of Samuel Taylor	May 31, 1807	[moved to Aurora, O.]
Anna Stebbins now w. of Abner Cary	Dec. 27, 1807	Williamsburg
Lucy, w. of Wm. Miller	Oct. 16, 1808	Any church
Timothy Allen	Mar. 25, 1810	Westfield

\*Towns are in Massachusetts  
unless otherwise indicated

(To be Continued)

NORTHFIELD, MASS., MARRIAGE RECORDS, 1724-1771

Communicated by Ralph M. Stoughton, Esq., of Gill, Mass.

From the first Record Book, supposed to have been lost, but recovered among the documents that make up the "Alexander Collection" in the Dickinson Memorial Library, Northfield, Mass. The following are those records which give information omitted in the genealogical section of the History of Northfield, by Temple and Sheldon.

- 21 Nov. 1725 Ebenezer Petye & Rebaca Worner
- 23 Dec. 1725 Orlando Bridgeman & Mary Wright
- 10 Jan. 1725/6 James Porter & Experience Wright
- 7 Apr. 1726 Ebenezer Merick & Mehitabel More
- 26 July 1726 Joseph Marchant & Sarah Alexander
- 8 Sep. 1726 Nathanel Dickinson & Matha Wright
- 2 Nov. 1727 Ashell Stebins & Sarah Petye
- 4 Dec. 1727 Benjamin Miler & Mary Mariman
- 13 Mar. 1728 Enoch Hall & Matha Wright
- 9 July 1728 Robert Cuper & Sarah Crofut
- 8 Dec. 1730 Abraham Elgor & Sarah Burt
- 27 Mar. 1731 Eleazer Holton & Hanah Wright
- 22 Nov. 1732 Joseph Petty & Hanah Moore
- 6 Sep. 1733 Ephraim Chamberlain & Anna Merriman
- 30 Oct. 1733 Nehemiah Wright & Mary Sheldon of Northampton
- 9 Jan. 1733/4 Daniel Severance & Rebecca Jones of Springfield
- 19 Jan. 1733/4 John Bement Junr & Mary Severance
- 12 Mar. 1733/4 Salvanus Stone of Lytchfield & Lydia Wright
- 19 Sep. 1734 Joseph Day of Springfield & Elizabeth Mattoon
- 30 Oct. 1734 John Petty & Margaret Alexander
- 7 Nov. 1734 William Orvis & Anna Petty
- 7 Feb. 1735/6 Richard Chamberlain & Abigail Wright
- 23 Dec. 1736 Phineas Wright & Joanna Field
- 23 Dec. 1736 Eleazer Patterson & Lydia Moore
- 6 Jan. 1736/7 Ebenezer Severance & Hanah Brooks
- 26 Oct. 1737 Ephraim Kellogg, soldier at Fort Dummer, & Lydia Satle
- 26 Feb. 1737/8 John Evans & Lydia Doolittle
- 2 Mar. 1737/8 Asahel Burt & Martha Severance
- 15 Apr. 1738 Samuel Roo[torn] soldier at Fort Dummer, & Mary Alexander
- 25 May [torn] [John?] Alexander soldier at Fort Dummer, & Bathsheba Sartle
- 19 July 1738 Samuel Burr, soldier at Fort Dummer, & Widow Sarah Stebbins
- 27 Nov. 1738 Ebenezer Webb & Meriam Burt

- 17 June 1739 Peter Evans & Ruth Petty  
 3 June 1739 Samuel Todd of New Haven & Mrs. Mercy  
                   Evans  
           Oct. [torn] Joseph [Lenard?], soldier at Fort Dum-  
                   mer & Esther Petty  
 23 Jan. 1739/40 Moses Chamberlain of Winchester & Jemi-  
                   mah Wright  
 15 Apr. 1740 Gaius Field & Sarah Holton  
   5 Oct. 1740 Aaron Burt & Miriam Elmer  
   4 Nov. 1740 Noah Cooley of Kingston & Mercy More  
 11 Nov. 1740 David Field of Deerfield & Thankful  
                   Doolittle of Winchester  
 31 Dec. 1740 John Mun of Deerfield & Mary Holton  
 16 Mar. 1740/1 Stephen Belding & Abigail Ramsdell  
 17 June 1741 Simon Willard of [torn] & [torn]herine  
                   Field  
 13 July 1741 Thomas Wier & Mary Burt  
 15 Apr. 1742 Ebenezer Warner & Lydia Brooks  
 25 June 1742 Mr. Seth Field & Mrs. Susanna Doolittle  
 17 Aug. 1741 Joshua Holton & Mary Stebbins  
 14 Mar. 1741/2 John Grandy & Esther Wright  
   2 Mar. 1748/9 Amasa Wright & Mary Chamberlain  
   9 Mar. 1748/9 Ephraim Allen of Hatfield & Miriam Webb  
   2 Apr. 1749 Asahel Stebbins & Lydia Harwood  
 25 Sep. 1749 Moses Wright & Hannah Knight  
   4 Nov. 1749 William Orvis & Martha Burt  
 22 Nov. 1749 Benjamin Brooks & Mary Miller  
 11 Apr. 1750 Bildad Andros & Wid. Mary Holton  
 25 Apr. 1750 Hezekiah Stratton & Mary Smith  
 19 Nov. 1751 Joseph Petty & Dorothy Rose  
 21 Feb. 1753 Alexander Norton & Lydia Chamberlain  
 20 July 1754 Moses Dickinson & Prudence Frizal of  
                   Fall Town  
   8 Mar. 1754[5?] William Orvis & Elizabeth Alexander  
 25 June 1755 Thomas Taylor of Hinsdale & Sarah Steb-  
                   bins  
 25 July 1757 Michael Lowell of Rockingham & Hannah  
                   Petty  
 10 Apr. 1760 Waitstill Elgar & Thankful Ellis of  
                   Winchester  
 22 May 1760 Nathan Flint of Tolland & Mercy Holton  
   1 Jan. 1761 Joseph Denio of Greenfield & Anna Sev-  
                   erance of Fall Town  
   5 Sep. 1760[1?] Joseph Wells of Greenfield & Eunice  
                   Field of Fall Town  
 17 Nov. 1761 Reubin Petty & Lydia Field  
 18 Jan. 1764 Philip Safford & Elizabeth Biglow  
 15 May 1764 Eliphalet Dart & Ann Field  
 12 July 1764 Zebulon Lee of Coventry & Mary Taylor  
   1 May 1765 Rufus Field & Elizabeth Field  
   4 Aug. 1766 Daniel Bracy & Sarah Miller  
   2 Apr. 1767 John Mun Junr. & Ann Smith of Greenfield

17 Sep. 1767 Col<sup>o</sup> William Syms & Martha Belding  
29 Jan. 1769 Amaziah Knights & Lydia Wright Grandy  
both of Northfield

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ALLEGED ROYAL ANCESTRY OF ALICE (TOMES) WELLES

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By Donald Lines Jacobus, M.A., New Haven, Conn.

The discovery made by Col. Charles E. Banks that the wife of Gov. Thomas Welles of Connecticut was Alice Tomes, of an English county or gentry family, was published in 1926 in The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 80, p. 279 ff. This was of course followed by the attempts of amateurs to discover, by use of English printed sources, some line of ancestry for her which would go back to royalty. Such a line appeared in print and was widely copied, going from the Tomes family through the Fulwood and Mitton families to the wife of one of the Mittons who was daughter of Sir Adam Peshall by his wife who belonged to the baronial house of Botetourt and had undoubted royal ancestry.

On 29 April 1929, the Boston Transcript, which then ran a fine genealogical column, contained a long article signed "S.E.F." which questioned the accuracy of the descent from that member of the Mitton family who married the Peshall. This thoughtful criticism, which showed considerable study of available printed sources, seems to have been largely disregarded.

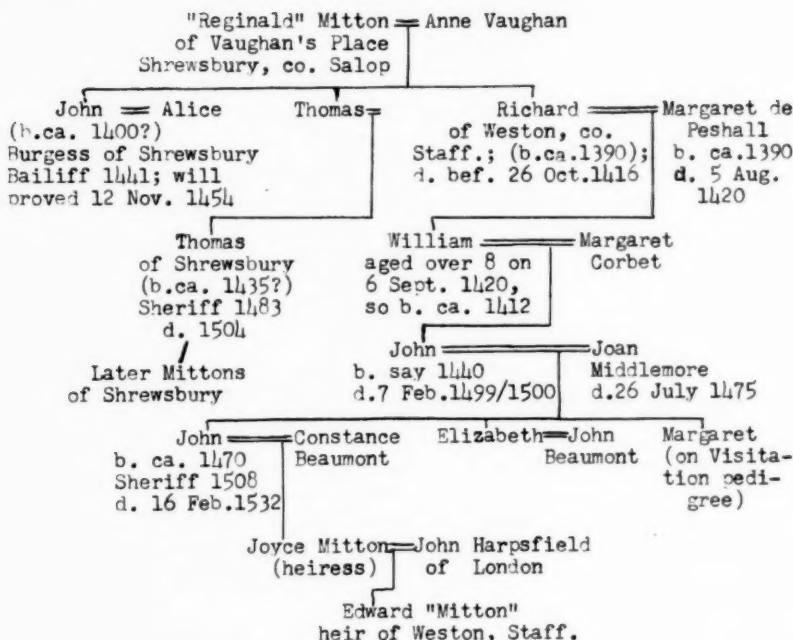
The present writer had never had occasion to study these lines, or even to check them with care, but in view of the Transcript article had long felt that the Mitton descent as generally accepted was in the doubtful category. However, the line was included in the most recent and on the whole the best American book to treat of royal lines, namely, Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists (1951; see page 96), by Rev. Dr. Frederick Lewis Wells, recently reviewed in this journal. This encouraged me to hope that later evidence had come to light to invalidate the criticisms made in 1929 in the Transcript, and in 1951 I was engaged by Mr. Ben H. Gardner of Aiken, S.C., to check the line. My report in slightly altered form is embodied in the present article, and is published for the benefit of other descendants by Mr. Gardner's kind permission.

For an understanding of the discussion, it is necessary to repeat some part of the alleged line of descent going backward from Alice Tomes, and numbering the generations with Alice counted as the first:

1. Alice Tomes, m. soon after 5 July 1615, Gov. Thomas Welles.
2. John Tomes, d. at Long Marston, co. Gloucester, 25 May 1602; m. (1) after 1579, Ellen (Gunne) Phelps, widow of Joseph Phelps, whose will, dated 26 Oct. 1579, was proved in Dec. 1579.
3. Richard Gunne, of Saintbury, co. Gloucester, m. Anne Fulwood of Alne Parva in Aston Cantlow, co. Warwick. This marriage is alleged to have occurred at Aston Cantlow, 20 May 1566. If the date is correct, it need hardly be pointed out that the birth of the daughter Ellen, even if she was the eldest child, could not have occurred earlier than 1567, yet Ellen was executrix of the will of her Phelps husband in 1579, twelve years later! The marriage date may be incorrect and has not been verified from the original sources; that should obviously be done. If correct, then Ellen's mother must have been an earlier wife of Richard Gunne and not Anne Fulwood.
4. Robert Fulwood of Little Alne, parish of Aston Cantlow, co. Warwick, will dated 6 Aug. 1574, proved 31 May 1576; m. Mary Hunter. Since his granddaughter Ellen was old enough to serve as executrix in 1579 and hence was probably born as early as 1556, the birth of Robert Fulwood can hardly be placed much later than 1510 and may have been earlier.
5. Robert Fulwood of Clay Hall, Tamworth, co. Warwick, m. Margaret Mitton or Mytton, whose birth can hardly be placed later than 1490 and may have been as early as 1480.

The Visitation pedigree of the Fulwood family states that this Margaret Mitton was daughter and heir of John Mitton of Shrewsbury. The Fulwoods in this line quartered the Mitton arms, which they would have had no right to do unless she was an heiress. Now a Visitation pedigree of the Mitton family does show a Margaret as daughter of a John Mitton of Weston, co. Stafford, but without showing a marriage for her, and she has been "adopted" by those tracing the Tomes ancestry as the Margaret who married Robert Fulwood. So far as dates are concerned, she would seem to be suitable for the marriage. Her grandfather was aged 8 in 1420, so born about 1412; the birth of her father, who died in 1500, may be placed as around 1440; and the birth of her brother, who was Sheriff in 1508 and died in 1532, may be guessed as around 1470. We have seen that the Margaret we are seeking may have been born 1480 or a little later.

There are three objections, however, to the identification. Before presenting them for consideration, it will be helpful to show a partial pedigree of the Mitton family of that period.



The first objection is, both the will and the inquisition post mortem are in print of the John Mitton of Weston who died 7 Feb. 1499/1500, and neither names a daughter Margaret [William Salt Collections, Staffordshire, vol. 1]. That is perhaps not a fatal objection. Wills did not always name all the children, and the inquisitions were concerned chiefly with determining the heir, in this case the son John, brother of the alleged Margaret. On the other hand, it is entirely possible that the one who drew up the pedigree placed Margaret in the wrong generation or on the wrong line.

The second objection is that this Margaret could not have been an heiress, since her brother succeeded to the Weston estate and himself left a daughter and heiress. Yet the Fulwood pedigree calls her an heiress, and the later Fulwoods quartered the Mitton arms.

In the third place, the Fulwood pedigree calls Margaret daughter of John Mitton of Shrewsbury. The Margaret in the Mitton pedigree was daughter of John Mitton of Weston in Staffordshire, and was not of the Shrewsbury (Shropshire) branch of the family.

The writer of the Transcript article therefore suggested that our Margaret might have been daughter of the early John Mitton of Shrewsbury whose will proved



12 Nov. 1454 left his estate largely to his wife Alice and mentioned his nephew Thomas but no children. The terms of the will imply that he had no male issue, but would not absolutely preclude his having daughters. This theory would answer requirements in two respects, since the father was of Shrewsbury and a hypothetical daughter could be an heiress. Unfortunately, such a daughter would be about two generations too early, if the dates, known and probable, of the Fulwoods are carefully considered.

Logically, Margaret should belong to the branch of the family which continued at Shrewsbury, descending from Thomas, brother of the early John. Judging from the dates, she could have been a granddaughter of the second Thomas (d. 1504) if that Thomas had a son John, and if the name of Margaret's father is correctly given on the Fulwood pedigree. Mitton pedigrees fail to show any later John in this branch of a date to be available as a possible father of Margaret. Nevertheless, it is possible that Margaret's father John was a younger son in this Shrewsbury branch, a man perhaps of small estate whom the pedigrees fail to note. If so, such estate as he left would make his daughter an heiress and entitle her descendants to quarter the Mitton arms, as the Fulwoods did.

It seems quite probable that Margaret's father was a cadet in one of the lines descending from "Reginald" [Reinold] Mitton who heads the Visitation pedigrees and whose wife is said to have descended from the early Welsh rulers. This is a royal line not much "in vogue." One never knows how accurate the early pedigrees are, going back of 1400, and with generations missing in the Mitton line and Margaret's place in it uncertain, it seems futile at the present time to check this alleged descent which supposedly runs back through the Vaughan and Eyton families to the Princes of Wales.

Those who may care to make their own independent study of the Tomes-Cunne-Fulwood-Mitton ancestry will find data in the following sources: The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 80, pp. 279-305, 446-447; vol. 84, pp. 286-290; Miscellanea Genealogia et Heraldica, New Series, vol. 3, pp. 273-279; Visitation of Shropshire in Publications of the Harleian Society, vol. 29, p. 360; Visitation of Warwickshire in Ibid., vol. 12, p. 237-238; William Salt Archaeological Society, vol. 1, p. 367; vol. 15, p. 312. For secondary sources which accept Margaret (Mitton) Fulwood as great-granddaughter of Richard Mitton of Weston by Margaret de Peshall, who had "royal ancestry," see Americana Illustrated, vol. 35, pp. 86-96; and Fredrick Lewis Weis, Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists (1951), p. 96.

LORD THURLOW AND "MRS. HARVEY"

By S. H. Lee Washington, M.A., F.S.A.

The figure of Edward, 1st Baron Thurlow (1731-1806) of Ashfield, co. Suffolk, is familiar as that of the Tory autocrat and friend of George III. who presided at Warren Hastings' trial in 1788 and made so memorable a retort in the House of Lords in 1779 to the Whig Duke of Grafton's cruel sneers at his plebeian origin. Like his friend Nelson, Thurlow could claim to be the son of a respectable Norfolk parson: and, like the famous admiral too, he distinguished himself in a romantic affair of the heart, though ultimately dying a bachelor. For he "had not only been noted for youthful profligacy," as Lord Campbell avers in Lives of the Lords Chancellors (1857), but whilst "the first magistrate under the Crown and keeper (as he boasted) of the King's conscience, was openly living with a mistress by whom he had a family of children....What should we say to such an outrage on decency in the reign of Victoria?" Yet, as Lord Campbell (an excellent lawyer also) is constrained to admit, in those jovial days "a majority of the judges had married [or occasionally not married!] their mistresses"; and the Duke of Grafton when prime minister "lived openly with Nancy Parsons, and escorted her to the opera."

The same authority assures us that the mother of Lord Thurlow's daughters was "Mrs. Harvey" or Hervey, a surname inevitably recalling the witticism of Lady Mary Wortley-Montagu; and, "although Mrs. Harvey is sometimes satirically named in the Rolliad [ode XVI] and other contemporary publications, her liaison with the Lord Chancellor seems to have caused little scandal. He was an affectionate parent and took great pains with the care and breeding of his offspring." His daughters even if illegitimate were "in good society. Two of them were well married"; a third made "a love match against his will, and though he was reconciled to her he would never consent to see her husband [perhaps John Trumbull?].....Lord Thurlow was fond of good music, and was I believe a critic in it. When he came into the drawing-room after dinner he generally put his feet up on the sofa, and one of his daughters played on the pianoforte some of Handel's music; and though he might sometimes appear to be dozing, if she played carelessly or music he did not like he immediately roused himself and said, 'What are you doing?'"

Of these daughters—five in all, and two of them bore the additional cognomen of Harvey—the eldest, Maria Harvey, born 1768, espoused in 1786 Col. William Nelson (1750-1803) of Co. Connaught, and died in the

United States in 1837 (family papers, penes me); the second, Caroline, was in 1812 the wife of Col. Samuel Brown, deputy quartermaster-general in Ireland [Collins' Peerage, vol. VIII, 1812, p. 285; Debrett's English Peerage, 1820, p. 543]; and the third, Sarah Hope Harvey, born 1 August 1774, married in London 1 October 1800, the American painter, John Trumbull (1756-1843), and died in the United States 12 April 1824. For each daughter their father had procured a grant from the Crown of a pension of £300 a year [Lord Campbell, ut supra]. The two additional daughters were Catherine, who died a spinster and is mentioned in 1820 by Debrett; and Mary (1783-1816), wife in 1801 of David Cunynghame, who in 1828 succeeded as 5th Baronet of Milncraig in Ayrshire.

Now Prof. Guy Chapman's amusing study of William Beckford (London, 1937) implies that the Baroness Craven, otherwise the Margravine of Anspach, was Lord Thurlow's particular lady love [vide p. 115]; but the births of her seven Craven children at regular intervals from 1768 to 1779 precludes any possibility that she could in the same period have become mother of Lord Thurlow's daughters. Quite plainly Mrs. Harvey was the fair charmer who played the leading rôle in the Lord Chancellor's career. In 1779 an elaborate satire on Mrs. Harvey and Lord Thurlow (who the year before had received his peerage, simultaneously with the Woolpack) was published in London by Richard Tickell (author of The Green Box of Monsieur de Sartine), being entitled An English Green Box: or, The Green Box of the R—t H—n L—d Churlow, given by the celebrated Mrs. Harvey to Roger O'Tickle (with occasional remarks by the Editor. Dedicated to the Rt. Hon. Edward, Lord Thurlow). And the Lord Chancellor's name is again coupled with Mrs. Harvey's in 1780, in the scandalous tête-à-tête portraits in the Town and Country Magazine.

But who was this "celebrated Mrs. Harvey," since Lord Campbell, our chief authority, denies us any further details? I venture to conclude that she must be no other than the well known Mrs. Elizabeth Hervey (1748-1822), elder half-sister to William Beckford (1760-1844) of Fonthill, the author of Vathek. In fact, that imperious matriarch, Maria Hamilton (1725-1798), depicted so splendidly in the portrait by Benjamin West,—a granddaughter of the 6th Earl of Abercorn, and first cousin to the Sir William Hamilton of Naples who espoused Nelson's "Emma,"—possessed in turn two husbands: first, "Mr. Francis March of Jamaica" (by whom there was an only daughter, the Elizabeth just mentioned, married 5 May 1774 to Col. Thomas Hervey of the Guards), and, secondly, "Alderman Beckford," the Jamaica-born friend of William Pitt (by whom a son, the re-

nowned William Beckford, a quo the Dukes of Hamilton and Princes of Monaco, also the Pamphili-Dorias of Rome). By Col. Hervey, alias Hanmer (he was the illegitimate son of the Hon. Thomas Hervey, Dr. Samuel Johnson's admirer, and of Lady Hanmer), Elizabeth left twin sons, viz.: Thomas Augustus Hervey (born 1776), who died s.p. at Oxford University; and William Hervey (1776-1863), later of Bradwell Grove, co. Oxon., who married (1801) Lady Dorothea Arabella Primrose, daughter of the 3rd Earl of Rosebery (vide the genealogy in Lord Augustus Hervey's edition of the "Journals of the Hon. William Hervey, 1752-1815," Suffolk Green Books, no. XIV, vol. 16, 1906).

A close intimacy had always existed between the Beckfords and Lord Thurlow who, at the instance of Mrs. Maria Beckford, became guardian to her talented son William after his father, the Alderman's, death in 1770. Moreover, Col. Hervey's own early demise in 1780 would have enabled his widow to resume her liaison with the eminent Lord Chancellor.

According to John Randolph of Roanoke, "That unhappy woman, Trumbull's wife....there is reason to believe, was the illegitimate daughter of Lord Thurlow, who had children of this description, took no special care of them, but left them an annuity of £300 a year for life" [entry of 3 September 1833 in the "Diary of William Dunlap," New York Hist. Colls., vol. III, pp. 738-9]. Mrs. John Trumbull's annuity from London excited considerable interest upon her removal to New York with her husband in 1804, as did the problem of her English paternity [ibid., vol. III, pp. 800-1, 828]; whilst the similar annuity of one of her sisters, Mrs. Nelson (who accompanied her over to America), became the cause of much family alarm in 1809 and 1825 due to interruptions in the usual payments (Ms. Reminiscences of Gen. Hart L. Stewart of Chicago, 1880, penes me. Mrs. Nelson's former husband, Col. William Nelson of Co. Connaught, who died in 1803, is therein pictured as being generous but improvident, and "from what his widow [who died in 1837] related to me about his horses, hounds, and fondness for hunting, I conclude he was an Irish gentleman of the olden time, enjoying the day with his friends with no thought for the morrow": Stewart Ms.)

None of Lord Thurlow's natural daughters left descendants in either Great Britain or the United States except Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Cunynghame (for whom see Burke's Peerage). Mrs. Nelson's daughter Mary Esther, born in London 27 August 1787, married in New York in 1809, Col. James McKibben of Franklin Co., Pa., afterwards a successful engineer. She died in Chicago 16 October 1858, leaving two daughters: (1) Hannah Blair McKibben (1810-1853), who married in 1829 Gen. Hart Le

Lac Stewart (1803-1882) of Chicago, and is an ancestress of the present writer [New England Hist. and Gen. Register, vol. 105, pp. 186, 189]; and (2) Mary Catherine McKibben (1818-1899), Mrs. James Young Sanger of Chicago, whose daughter Harriet (raised to the rank of Countess by Pope Leo XIII) married in 1867 the famous railroad magnate, George M. Pullman.

In fairness it should be made clear that the suggested identification of "the celebrated Mrs. Harvey" (or Hervey), while seeming most probable from chronology and Lord Chancellor Thurlow's known intimacy with the Beckford family, can yet not be considered as final. There certainly was another lady of that name, to wit, Mrs. Elizabeth (Chudleigh) Hervey, titular Countess of Bristol and Duchess of Kingston, the notorious "bigamous duchess," who died in France in 1788 and who must be considered a possible alternative.

The evidence that Mrs. John Trumbull (Sarah Hope Harvey) was born in 1774 is extremely flimsy. She and her sister, Mrs. William Nelson (Maria Harvey, said to be born 1768), who occurs as "a dear old lady" in the ms. Memoirs of Gen. Hart L. Stewart circa 1830, and of whom a portrait exists, may quite easily both of them have been born at a slightly earlier date. In such a case, the Duchess would really look the better choice, - besides, she was the only one of the two who deserved to be called "celebrated," - while the Lord Chancellor's three younger daughters (who all bore the name of Thurlow only) might have been his children by a second mistress, Miss Lynch, "the daughter of Dean Lynch of Canterbury" (pace Lord Campbell).

Prof. Guy Chapman of Leeds University (England), whose life of Beckford was revised and reissued in 1952, has kindly informed the writer that the junior Mrs. Elizabeth Hervey (née March), William Beckford's half-sister, "was always a most demure little person and apparently incapable of figuring as Lord Thurlow's *maitresse en titre*"; and he is inclined to accept Mrs. Elizabeth (Chudleigh) Hervey as the likeliest solution. Hence, it seems necessary to take note of this rival possibility.

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#### RECENT BOOKS AND GENEALOGICAL INTELLIGENCE

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**Search and Research: The Researcher's Handbook.** A Guide to Official Records and Library Sources for Investigators, Historians, Genealogists, Lawyers and Librarians. By Noel C. Stevenson, LL.B., Member of the State Bar of California. 1951, Yuba City, Calif. Paper

bound copies, \$2.25; cloth bound copies, \$2.75.

Several volumes have appeared in recent years which treat of various phases of research. Each is useful in its own way. The present volume, of 202 pages, is not designed to instruct genealogical novices in methods of research or how to solve specific problems. It is distinctly a reference book, not for genealogists only, but for all kinds of investigators, and it should find a place in the reference room of all libraries of any size. It will be useful to both amateur and professional genealogists, along with lawyers and detectives and tracers of missing persons.

A great deal of instruction as to methods and sources is implicit in the first 41 pages where specific and general sources are listed and explained. A hundred pages are devoted to the official records of each State, stating what official or agency is the custodian of each class of records—a most useful feature of the book. Other sources for each State are included, and following the States of the U.S.A., similar information is given for Cuba, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, each Province of Canada, and Newfoundland.

The concluding section, a full 56 pages, lists family associations. This is the first sizable directory of such associations to be published since 1931, and this feature alone is worth the price of the book.

The Records and Collections of the College of Arms. By Anthony Richard Wagner, Richmond Herald. 1952. Published by Burkes Peerage Ltd., 180 Fleet Street, London EC4. 84 p. plus index. Six shillings net.

This paper-bound brochure offers many fascinating details of the history of the College of Arms and its official records, which are distinguished from its very valuable but not official collections. In addition to such records, the College has some 10,000 books. Its copies of parish registers are important, including a large number of manuscript copies as well as those which are in print.

For practical use, the most noteworthy section of the brochure is its 30-page appendix, which tells the story of the Visitations and how and why copies were made (most of those published by the Harleian Society and others are copies not originals), and then lists the authentic Visitations in possession of the College. This feature makes the treatise a useful source of permanent reference for all genealogical libraries.

A Stouffer Line of Descent that Originated in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. 1951. For private distribution. Cloth, 61 p.

Issued for the family, no name of author or publish-



er appears, but the small book bears internal evidence of most thorough research and careful compilation, in addition to specific acknowledgment of the collaboration of Meredith B. Colket, Jr., of Washington, well and favorably known for his work in this field. The line traced is that of Matthias Stauffer of Lancaster County, who first appears of record in 1725. His difficult will is printed verbatim in German, together with a translation. There are many illustrations, mainly maps to show residence and land ownership. The line is continued to the descendants of John Kibler Stouffer (1839-1903) of Ohio and Indiana.

Capt. James Hook of Greene County, Pennsylvania.  
By James William Hook. New Haven, Conn., 1951. Cloth, 164 p.; indexed. Lithoprinted.

The author calls this book a supplement to his former genealogy, James Hook and Virginia Eller, published in 1925. There is some account of Hooke (Hook) families in England, and mention of other families of the name in America. The book is chiefly devoted to Thomas Hooke who came to Maryland in 1668, and his descendants, particularly in the line of Capt. James<sup>4</sup> (John<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>). There is also a partial genealogy of Abraham Lakin whose wife was daughter of William Lee, both of Prince George County, Maryland. Some illustrations.

Family History of John Bishop of Whitburn, Scotland, Robert Hamilton Bishop of Oxford, Ohio, Ebenezer Bishop of McDonough County, Illinois, [and] John Scott of Ireland. By Stanley R. Scott, 1200 Garfield Ave., Topeka, Kansas; and Robert H. Montgomery, 3 Gray Gardens West, Cambridge, Mass. Cloth, 148 p., indexed. Copies from either compiler, \$3.50.

This neatly lithoprinted book, with a number of fine pictures of members of the family, biographical sketches, and excerpts from letters, is our idea of what a family history should be. The Bishop line goes back in the United States only to 1802, but has been traced further back in Scotland. John Scott seems to have come from Ireland at about the same period.

The numbering of generations begins with the earliest traced ancestor abroad. We think it better practice to number the first American generation as one, and to designate generations abroad as minus one, minus two, or perhaps better, as a, b, c, etc., going backward. If further generations should later be discovered abroad, they can then be added without changing the whole numbering system.

The Jackson Chronicles: Wherein are Related some facts in the Life of the Rev. John Jackson, A.B., his

Ancestors, his Descendants, and some Related Families. By Fred Kinney Jackson, A.B., M.D. Burlington, Vt., 1949. Paper, 278 p.

This Jackson family descends from Lieut. John Jackson of Cambridge, Mass., and the chief value of the book is the detailed information given about a branch of this family stemming from James<sup>2</sup>, James<sup>3</sup>, and Rev. John<sup>4</sup>. However, a vast amount of data is included on related families, such as John Rogers of Chelmsford and Billerica, Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Hubbard (John<sup>2</sup>, George<sup>1</sup>), Dakin, Hollister (New Fairfield, Conn., and Vermont branch), Farrand (Milford, New Milford, Vermont), Brodie-Holmes-Parkyn, William Wood of Concord, Ralph Keeler of Norwalk, a branch of the Wadsworth family, and many others. The copy seen contains no index, which is badly needed in a book of this type, but we understand that the copy seen was a preliminary one and that an index is to be included.

Although the accounts of some of the families, particularly in the early generations, are drawn mainly from printed sources, and inaccuracies undoubtedly will be noted, considerable original research has also been done, and much data obtained from family sources, so that much previously unpublished material is here presented, worthy of preservation in this form.

Correspondence of Governor Samuel Ward May 1775 - March 1776 with a biographical introduction based chiefly on the Ward Papers covering the period 1725-1776 edited by Bernhard Knollenberg and Genealogy of the Ward Family [Thomas Ward, son of John, of Newport and some of his descendants] compiled by Clifford P. Monahan. Rhode Island Historical Society, 1952. Cloth, 254 p., indexed. Price \$7.50, postpaid.

An important contribution to the Revolutionary period of our history, edited by a scholar whose writings relating to that period are favorably known. The separately indexed genealogy fills 18 pages and brings many of the lines down to date. It is the first genealogy of this family to appear since 1875.

Gay Families of Augusta and Rockbridge Counties, Virginia, an article which appeared in The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, April 1951, and John Gay of Sadsbury, Lancaster Co., Pa., which appeared in The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine, September 1951, are both available in reprint form. Both are by Robert H. Montgomery, A.B., LL.B., 3 Gray Gardens West, Cambridge, Mass., and give the results of much original research.

JOHN<sup>1</sup> PACKER OF GROTON, CONN.  
HIS WIVES AND CHILDREN

By W. Herbert Wood, B.A., New Haven, Conn.

John Packer was living, as early as 1651, in that part of the town of New London later set off as the town of Groton, and was a carpenter. His first wife was named Elizabeth; she signed with him in 1671 [New London Deeds, 5:14]. According to Miss Caulkins, she died 4 May 1674.

The will of John Friend of Salem, Mass., dated 4 Apr. 1655 and proved 26 Mar. 1656, left to his son Samuel a double portion and to his daughter Elizabeth Pecker (so spelled in print) twenty shillings besides the £10 which her grandfather gave her. John Friend was also a carpenter and had been to Saybrook with "young" John Winthrop, according to Savage, who thought but without giving evidence that perhaps James Pecker of Charlestown, afterwards of Haverhill, had married Elizabeth Friend.

The first son of John and Elizabeth Packer was named John, no doubt for his father, but possibly also for his mother's father. Their second son was named Samuel, the name of Elizabeth Friend's older brother.

There was also a daughter named Elizabeth who, by her second husband, John Weeks of Groton, had a son named Friend. The occurrence of this name is highly significant, and had not been used previously in any Groton family, so far as the writer has been able to discover. It appears to have come directly from the child's grandmother, who could have been Elizabeth Friend.

After the death of Elizabeth, John Packer married, 24 June 1678 [New London L. R.], Rebecca (Wells) Latham, born at Wethersfield, Conn., 10 Jan. 1652, living in Kingstown, R.I., in 1710, daughter of Hugh and Mary (Rusco) Wells, and widow of Thomas<sup>2</sup> Latham (Caryl<sup>1</sup>). After the death of John Packer in 1689, she married third, ——— Watson of Kingstown.

Known children by first wife:

- i. John, b. Feb. 1656/7 (ae. 1 1/4 yrs., May 1658, Winthrop Medical Journal); d. 1701 (will recorded 6 June 1701); m. (1) Lydia Latham, dau. of Caryl<sup>1</sup>; m. (2) 10 Mar. 1686, Sarah Miller, dau. of George. He was a cooper.
- ii. Samuel, b. abt. 1661 (ae. 67, New London Superior Court file, March 1727/8).
- iii. Richard, b. abt. 1663 (ae. 65, New London Superior Court file, March 1727/8). Inventory taken 8 May 1733.
- iv. Mary, b. ; d. by 1730; m. Ephraim Culver, son of

- Edward<sup>1</sup> Culver (New London L. R., 9:54).
- v. Elizabeth, b. abt. 1669-70 (ae. 49, New London Superior Court file, March 1719/20); m. (1) John Stark of Groton, whose inventory was taken Sept. 1690; m. (2) John Weeks of Groton.
  - vi. Sarah, b. abt. 1672; d. at Stonington, 18 Nov. 1734 ae. 62; m. 2 June 1697, James Dean of Stonington.
  - vii. Tamzen, m. (1) abt. 1691, Luke Brumbly; m. (2) 17 Jan. 1698, Robert Parke.

Children by second wife:

- viii. Rebecca, bapt. 13 July 1679 (New London Church).
- ix. James, bapt. 11 Sept. 1681 (New London Church); d. 24 Apr. 1765 ae. 83 (g.s., Groton); m. three times (see Parkhurst Ms., New London Families, photostatic copy at State Library, Hartford).
- x. Joseph, of Kingstown, R.I., in 1713 (Groton L. R., 1: 168), and deceased by 1723 (*ibid.*, 1:707).
- xi. Benjamin, d. unm., in His Majesty's service in Canada against the French. Will proved 12 June 1711.

#### NOTES AND ERRATA

Yelverton-Gale. It was noted *ante*, vol. 28, p. 18, that an unidentified daughter of Andrew<sup>2</sup> (Abell<sup>1</sup>) Gale "m. Anthony Yarrington of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and had two children, Gale Yarrington and Andrew Yarrington, who were named in the will of Andrew<sup>2</sup> Gale in 1742."

The undersigned is able to identify this daughter as Abigail, who married Anthony Yelverton, not Yarrington, the surname probably having been garbled in the transcript of the will of Andrew<sup>2</sup> Gale.

The 10 Sept. 1784 will of Anthony Yelverton of New Paltz Precinct, Ulster Co., N.Y., appears in Liber 37: 183, Surrogate's Court, New York City. He names his wife Abigail; sons Gale and Anthony, Jr.; daughters Mary, Abigail, Hannah, and Elizabeth, and Elizabeth's son Anthony Ostrom; granddaughter Mary, daughter of son Andrew, deceased; and son-in-law Nathaniel Goodspeed.

Gale Yelverton, eldest son of Anthony and Abigail (Gale) Yelverton, married Francisca La Count, daughter of Bodewine La Count and Rebecca Gonzales, and had sons Andrew Yelverton (born 1765), Bodewine La Count Yelverton, and perhaps others.

Jane Elizabeth Depew, grandmother of the undersigned, was the granddaughter of Aaron Van Anden and his wife Frances Yelverton of Kingston, N.Y. The querist seeks the parentage of Frances Yelverton, who died 23 Nov. 1869 aged 86-0-9, hence born presumably 14 Nov. 1783.

Bodewine La Count Yelverton had, among other children, Jane Elizabeth and Frances, and the latter mar-

ried a Vandenburg. It seems probable that Andrew, or more likely another brother of Bodewine's, was father of the Frances Yelverton, born 1783, subject of this query, who had a granddaughter named Jane Elizabeth.

While the undersigned is primarily concerned with the identification of this Frances, he will be glad to learn the name and address of any person interested in the ancestry and descendants of the brothers John and Anthony Yelverton, who came over in the early 1700's from Chester, England, to Long Island. Anthony settled in and was perhaps a founder of New Paltz, Ulster Co., and John founded Chester, Orange County. His tombstone in the New Windsor Cemetery reads: "Here lyes the body of John Yelverton who departed this life July 12, 1767, age 74 years. Born in Chester, England, 1693."

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Descents from the Grand Princes of Kiev. The following additions and corrections should be made (Vol. 28, pp. 91-95).

No. 9. Wsevolod I married a Monomacha, but her father has not been definitely identified.

No. 17. The dotted part of the line connecting Vladislav I with his father Casimir I was used to prevent confusion because of crossing lines and has no other significance.

No. 5. The mother of Jaroslav I is identified as either Olava or Adela (two of St. Vladimir's wives) by Baumgarten in "Saint Vladimir et la conversion de la Russie (Orientalia Christiana, vol. 27, Whole No. 79).

Pages 92 and 95, under line II: it is correctly stated that the blood of Harold II of England reentered the royal line of England with the marriage of Philippa of Hainault to Edward III. However, it also entered the royal line a generation earlier, stemming from line II as follows: Bela III of Hungary; Andrew II of Hungary by his second wife, Yolande de Courtenai; Violante of Hungary, who married James I of Aragon; Isabel of Aragon, who married Philip III of France; Philip IV of France; Isabel of France, Queen of Edward II of England.

The references for lines V and IV are reversed in the notes; for line V, read the text marked IV and vice versa. Two generations are omitted in the reference for line IV, namely The American Genealogist, 9:13, footnote 1. Vladislav I of Poland by Judith (not Sophia) had Boleslas III (see chart), who by Zbyslava had Vladislav II (ca. 1105-1159), Grand Duke of Poland, who married 1125-7 Agnes daughter of St. Leopold, Margrave of Austria. They were the parents of Rixa (or Richilde) (ca. 1135-1166/7), second queen of Alphonso VII, King of Leon and Castile.

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 THE OLDER GENERATIONS OF THE VAN RENSSELAER FAMILY
 

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By William J. Hoffman, M.Mech.Eng., Laplume, Pa.

The older generations of the Van Rensselaers as presented in several of the older publications about the family were mainly based on family notes or taken from not too reliable printed sources. A thorough search in the available archives had apparently never been made. In a first effort to rectify some of the errors, I published in 1940 in the New York Gen. and Biog. Record (vol. 71) a genealogy of the first generations, taken from what was considered to be reliable source material and added extensive notes about some of the related families.

In 1950, H. de Vries, LL.M., of Arnhem, Netherlands, an expert searcher of the Archives of the Province of Gelderland, whose work is highly regarded by historians and genealogists, published in De Nederlandsche Leeuw an account of the proven ancestry of the family, and he also continued the now extinct Dutch branch of the family and the first generations of the American branch. Every statement is based on authentic, quoted records. Reasons are advanced to substantiate several conclusions. It is an excellent example of what can be produced when a thorough search is made by a highly competent expert searcher in the available original records.

I made a translation of this article and a few libraries availed themselves of the opportunity to procure copies.\* However, the results of the investigation have not become known to the general genealogical public, and I therefore think it worth while to set forth an abbreviated account of it, that is, without quoting any of the references to the original records or the scholarly arguments presented for some of the conclusions reached.

The van Rensselaer family derived its name from a still existing farm situated in the borough of Putten in the neighborhood of Nykerk, in that part of the Province of Gelderland called the Veluwe (Poor-land). For many centuries the farm was owned by the Abbey of Elten located in Germany—to which the farm had been donated—and during these early centuries its occupants or holders were serfs, that is, they were unfree. That this farm is to be identified with Rentilo mentioned in 855, a supposition made by the historian Beernink, and to which I had also subscribed in my article, has been

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\*N.Y. Gen. and Biog. Society; N.Y. Historical Society; The Holland Society; The State Library at Albany; the Public Library at New York; New England Hist. Gen. Society at Boston.



definitely disposed of by Mr. de Vries. The name is in all probability to be traced to a piece of fertile grassland (laer), a pasture in the sandy heathlands of the district which was therefore under cultivation at an early date and was worked by a man named Rense, an old Dutch Christian name; in other words, the "pasture land of Rense."

It has always been taken for granted that the ancestors of the Dutch-American family had occupied this farm for centuries, for persons bearing this surname appear in the records since the XIVth and XVth centuries. But as will be shown in the succeeding pages, these persons are not to be considered as the ancestors of the present family. I must warn most emphatically against the assumption made only too often in American publications, that the same surname indicates relationship. It is a typical old custom in Gelderland and other parts of the Netherlands, for successive owners of an estate or farm, when it was known by a name, to adopt that name as a family name, and it is a well-known fact, familiar to every Dutch genealogist, that in countless instances families having the same surname are not related, but have in common only that their unrelated ancestors at one time or another owned the same property from which they derived their identical surname.

This is what happened when the proven ancestor of the present Van Rensselaer family, Henrick Woltersz (no surname) of Harderwyk bought in 1488 the Renseler farm and whose grandson Wolter Jansz was the first of this family to take the surname van Renseler after 1571 when he moved to Nykerk and this property. [His brother, Kille Jansz, the grandfather of the First Patroon, Kiliaen van Rensselaer, still lived at Harderwyk at that time and did not use the name van Renseler in any records. His children, however, moved to Nykerk, and then took the name.] For after acquiring the property, the family had at first remained at Harderwyk, and the Renseler was then worked by a tenant farmer, a "bouman" (think of Bowery) (tithing roll of 1518-1521), and that was also the case when skipper Gherberdt Ribbegingsz owned it.

There is still another fact which I want to emphasize. When I use the word "bought," it should be understood that this means obtaining the perpetual rent, the leasehold. The Abbey of Elten still remained the owner. As a matter of fact, the property was still unfree when Henrick Woltersz bought the perpetual rent, but he made an arrangement with the owners—no doubt for a certain consideration—to have it made free in order not to lose his own freedom when occupying the place. Making unfree property into a free fief was a

procedure which became more and more prevalent during the following centuries.

As has already been stated, the records of the XIVth and XVth centuries disclose several persons bearing the surname van Renseler. Two main genealogical fragments can be made up from the records without proving any connection between the two groups. It has been definitely proven that Obert van Renseler who paid tithes (and was therefore unfree) on the Renseler farm to the steward of the Abbey—who lived at Putten—which tithes amounted to twelve bushels of rye and three bushels of grist, could not possibly have been the father of Wolter who was the father of Henrick Woltersz, proven ancestor of the present family. That assumption, formerly made, was based on a faulty dating of the tithing list, and when that is corrected, a disparity of ages comes to light, and in addition the facts which follow have now been established.

A fragmentary pedigree can be assembled of a van Renseler group (the usual spelling of the name up to the end of the XVIth century) who were successive tithingmen (holders) of the Renseler farm. An interrogation point in front of a name in the following pedigree means that absolute proof of parentage has not been found; but each one doubtless belongs to the generation indicated, and details and evidences are more fully set forth in the original article.

1. Obert van Renseler, unfree holder (perpetual rent) of the "Renseler," appeared on a tithing list dating from the end of the XIVth century. His son:

2. Gise Obertsoen van Renseler succeeded his father as holder of the Renseler. His children:

1. Berwe (Berwyn) Gysensz van Renseler, mentioned under Barneveld 1431-52. Burgher of Harderwyk (1439). Owned, together with his brother Gelys, property under Nykerk indicated as the "Abelen Everwyn's goed" and 8 acres in "Heyn Roestsland."

3 ii. Gelys.

- iii. ? Obert, mentioned in 1459 as paying tithes on the Renseler.

3. Gelys Gysensz van Renseler, mentioned at Nykerk, burgher of Harderwyk, owned the property at Nykerk together with his brother Berwe. Child:

4. Gysbert Gelysz van Renseler, owner of the Nykerk property after the death of his father and uncle. [The so-called Landtenure Rolls are of the greatest value in establishing a line of descent.] Child:

5. Berwe Gysbertsz van Renseler, owner of the Nykerk property. Died before 1467. Married Encke, who married second, 1468, Melis Hunynck, and who together with Berwe's children paid the tithes on the Nykerk property. Children (there were four children according to the records):

- i. Trude van Renseler (or Renxler, a common variation), m. Harderwyk, Claes Arntsz.
- ii. Besselken van Renseler, owned together with her sister Trude the property at Nykerk.
- iii. ? Gysbert van Renseler, a priest at Putten, member of the Guild of St. George, a fraternal organization. He received an income from the Renseler farm, guaranteed to him by Gherbert Ribbegingsz.
- iv. ? Zwene, undoubtedly a daughter of No. 5 above, married 1469 Gherbert Ribbegingssoen, who m. (2) in 1472, Weyme. Gherbert appeared in 1472, just before his second marriage, before schepens of Harderwyk, and stated that he owed his child 200 gl. from the estate of the child's mother, and he put the Renseler farm up for security. He stated that he obtained the farm by a division of an estate, undoubtedly his wife's, the latter having in turn inherited it from Obert (2,iii above).

Gherbert Ribbegingssoen, a skipper on the Zuyder-sea, appeared several times in the Harderwyk records. He was apparently in financial difficulties, borrowing money and putting up his ship as security. In 1487 he owed two years' rent on his house and decided to sell the Renseler farm, finding the following year a buyer in the person of Henrick Woltersz, also an inhabitant of Harderwyk. He is the proven ancestor of the van Rensselaer family.

#### Genealogy

1. Henrick Woltersz bought (perpetual lease) in 1488 the farm belonging to the Abbey of Elten named the Renseler and de Maelstede (the Mill Stead), both situated in the district of Putten, from Gherbert Ribbegingssoen and his wife Zwene, inhabitants of Harderwyk, where Henrick was also living. He was already the owner of "die Stege" and the "Folssenkamp," the latter property more commonly designated "the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder," these properties being also located near Putten. This is taken from a record in the Archives of Dusseldorf, Germany. The Abbey of Elten was under the jurisdiction of Dusseldorf. These archives had not previously been consulted and contain many data used in this article.

On Aug. 26, 1521, Henrick Woltersz obtained permission from the Abbess of Elten to divide the Renseler

estate into two parts and to transfer these, one to his son Jan, and the other to his son-in-law Alert Ottensz. The latter agreed in the following year to give his father-in-law, on account of this transfer, 15 bushels of buckwheat and 15 bushels of oats and in addition 14 horentjes gulden (old-time money) yearly.

It is also evident from the records that the reason why Henrick had transferred half of the interest of the Renseler to a son-in-law rather than to his other son, Wolter, was that the latter was seemingly at odds with his father or, as the records have it: "Wolter could have his share back [he would therefore seem to have had it originally] provided he would again associate with his parents and could get along with them." He died single in 1524.

Henrick Wolters was a free man, being a burgher of Harderwyk. His name appeared on the tithing list of 1493 as the owner of the Renseler farm with a note in the margin indicating that he had made it into a free fief of "Our Lady," that is, the Abbess of Elten, but the scribe added that he was not absolutely sure of this. However, on a much later list, in 1582, the property is listed as a fief, a "free" property. Henrick was assessed in 1519 and 1522 for the upkeep of the church at Putten. He was obliged to do this on account of his holdings in the borough. But he lived at Harderwyk and died after 21 June 1526.

He had married Zwene, who died after 30 Sept. 1524, and whose family name—not evident from the records—was Indyck according to the gravestone in the church at Nykerk, where her name is mentioned as one of the quarterings of Miliaen van Rensselaer.

Although the ancestry of Henrick Woltersz has not been found, it would seem from the records at Harderwyk that Henrick had a brother named Weghe Woutersz (Woltersz, Waltersz), who was a gerichtsman, a city judge, in 1485 and sheriff in 1493, and still living in 1512. Most interesting is the fact that a seal of his is attached to a document dating from 1484 and this shows his arms: a cross moline; which is the arms of the present Van Rensselaer family. But it should be pointed out that a cross moline was a heraldic charge much used in that part of the province of Gelderland (as was also the flaming basket crest), and it therefore does not constitute a definite proof of consanguinity. Specific heraldic charges were quite prevalent in certain districts in the Netherlands, and are often an indication of the origin of a family.

Children:

- i. Wolter Henricks, d. between 28 June and 13 July 1524.
- ii. J(oh)an Henricks.

- iii. Geyse or Geza Henricks, together with her stenson Otto Alerts were in 1546 Patrons and Collators of the Home for Widows at Harderwyk. She died between 19 Dec. 1548 and Aug. 1552. She married at Harderwyk, 2 Jan. 1509, Alert Otten, widower of Griete Brinck(s) and before that of Bette. He was schepen of Harderwyk, member of the Guild of St. George, enfeoffed with half of the Renseler farm, owner of land under Hierden and Putten. He gave to his wife the usufruct of his house near the St. Nicolaes Gate and an oil mill and barns at Harderwyk. He died between 26 May 1537 and July 1543. During the quarrels of Henrick Woltersz with his oldest son Wolter, the half part of the Renseler changed hands between Wolter, his father and his brother and Alert Otten several times, but finally it was definitely acquired by Alert Otten, whose eldest son, Otto Alerts, owned it in 1552, but apparently died childless before Feb. 1554.
- iv. Belie Henricks, received the Maelstede property in 1522.
- v. Anna Henricks, d. after 11 Apr. 1554; m. at Harderwyk, 29 June 1518, Master of Arts Johan Voet, widower of Gheyle, Peter Herbetsdr. Johan Voet was Rector of the Latin School at Harderwyk. He died between 13 Mar. 1539 and July 1542. He was son of Volcker Henricksz, Burgomaster and Schepen of Harderwyk, and of Geeske (Geertruida) Gheerlofs Voet.\* Mr. Johan had therefore taken his mother's surname, a well-known one in Harderwyk. It is told that after the conflagration of 1503 which destroyed most of the city of Harderwyk, "Master Artium Johan Voet, when Rector in 1520, offered to restore the Latin School at a small recompense, out of love for the city of his birth and devotion to education."

2. Johan Henricks lived at Harderwyk, enfeoffed in 1521 with one-half of the Renseler farm, and in 1527 with one-half of the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder. He died before 10 June 1542 and was buried at Nykerk. He married at Harderwyk, 30 June 1523, Bye van Luxoel, who was buried at Nykerk. She was a daughter of Melis Cosynsz and Bye Hanegraaf (name evident from gravestone at Nykerk). He married second, Andreesken van Oldenbarneveldt, a daughter of Cosyn. She was still living in 1566, died before 1600.

Children by first marriage:

- 3 i. Kil Jansz.
- 5 ii. Wolter Jansz.
- iii. Griete Jans van Renseler, died (without any children) at Emmerich, Germany, between 17 Sept. 1580 and 1583.

\*As a matter of personal interest, the writer traces his descent to Gheerlof Voet and also to the Gyginck family (see 2,vi), although not to that particular couple.

## Children by second marriage:

- iv. Johan van Renseler Jansz, nicknamed "Jan de Geck," "Jan die Dullen," or "Dolle Johan," that is, "crazy John" (mentioned as a half-brother of Kil Jansz); lived at Harderwyk where he was the owner of a house. Buried at Harderwyk between 13 and 26 Oct. 1602.
- v. Hendrick van Renseler, mentioned 27 Apr. 1563 as a son by second wife.
- vi. Bye (Beatrix) van Renseler, mentioned as a daughter by second wife, 1564. She d. before 20 Sept. 1594. Married (banns Doesburg, 10 Oct. 1571), Johan Gyginck, schepen and burgomaster of Doesburg, who d. after 28 May 1612.

3. Kil(le) [Kiliaen] Jansz never bore the name of Renseler, as he never lived on the Renseler farm, but remained in Harderwyk, where he was a member of the Guild of St. Joris. Enfeoffed with a half part of the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder in 1542. He transferred this in 1559 to his brother Wolter Jansz [No. 5]. He was the owner of a half interest in the Renseler farm, enfeoffed with it 1 Sept. 1542. Died between 1583 and 1 May 1592. Married Nelle van Wenckum, daughter of Claes Hendricksz and Engel van (der) Hell.

## Children:

- i. Claes (Nicolaes) van Renseler, overseer of the poor at Nykerk; lived in Putten in 1588; d. in or before 1608. Married Jacobgen Schrassert, born ca. 1550, buried at Nykerk, 19 May 1632, daughter of Coop Arntsz and Neele van Estvelt.
- 4 ii. Hendrick van Renselaer.
- iii. Jan van Renselaer (it was about this time that the 'a' was added to the name), twin with the foregoing. Enfeoffed with the other half of the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder. Captain with the famous Geuzen, a nickname meaning 'beggars,' a volunteer army of liberation. See for further details, the article mentioned *supra*, in the 1940 Record, p. 265.
- iv. Engele van Renseler, buried at Nykerk, 11 Sept. 1628; m. Gerrit Willems, who d. before 5 Dec. 1673.

4. Hendrick van Renselaer, hopman, captain, burgher of Hasselt, market master, supervisor of the walls of the city, member of the city government, schepen and councilor. Enfeoffed as heir of his brother with one half interest in the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder in 1601; buried at Nykerk. Died at the siege of Ostend, 6 June 1602. Married in or before 1586, Marietie Pafraet from Hasselt, who died after 20 Sept. 1636. [N.Y. Gen. and Biog. Record, 71:266, 345.]

## Children:



- i. Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, the first Patroon. See for full particulars the various publications relating to this family.
- ii. Marietgen Van Rensselaer, born ca. 1588, buried at Nykerk, 12 Mar. 1651. Married (banns at Nykerk, 14 July 1605), Rycket van Twiller, born ca. 1581, supervisor of the pastures of Appelrevelt, who died between 1640 and 16 May 1644, son of Wolter Gysbertsz and Alyt van Wenckum. They were the parents of Wouter Van Twiller, the Director-General of New Netherland.

A genealogy of the Dutch branch of the family, descending from Wolter (No. 5) has never appeared in American publications, and is considered to be of interest. This branch was mentioned in my article in the Record, but was incomplete and not definitely attached to the main family. It became extinct after three generations.

5. Wolter Jansz, enfeoffed with half the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder in 1559 by transfer from his brother Kille Jansz. In 1554 he had already been enfeoffed with the other half of the 10 acres (here called "Groot Voskamp," the same as Foissencamp, see ante), and he therefore held the entire 10 acres. He died between 28 June 1566 and 12 Aug. 1571. He married 1548-1551 Elisabeth van Oldenbarnevelt, who died after 12 Aug. 1571, widow of Wolter van Hennekeler, and daughter of Ernst Cosynsz and Elisabeth Jacobs van Dyrum (Dieren).

Children:

- 6 i. Jan.
- 7 ii. Hendrick.
- iii. Geertgen.

6. Jan van Renseler Woltersz lived in 1567 at Har-derwyk and later (1602) at Putten. In 1567 he was enfeoffed with half the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder. Steward of Count Frederic of Bergh. Buried at Nykerk, 4 Sept. 1629. Married first, before 1 Nov. 1591, Mette Jansd. van Aller, who died in or after Oct. 1604, daughter of Jan van Aller and Hendrickgen; married second, (banns Nykerk, 24 June 1610), Agatha Schrassert, who died after 3 Sept. 1613, daughter of Evert Philippsz and Nale van Arler.

Children by first marriage:

- i. Jan van Renseler, bapt. Nykerk 5 July 1599; d. in or before 1604.
- ii. Geertgen van Renseler, bapt. Nykerk 28 Apr. 1601; probably the Griete v. R. who was buried at Nykerk 30 Dec. 1662. Married (banns Nykerk 28 May 1615), Otto

- Collert, buried Nykerk 7 Sept. 1629, son of Wolter Gerritsz.
- iii. Elisabeth van Renseler, bapt. Nykerk 2 May 1603; buried there 5 May 1636. Married (banns Nykerk 28 May 1615, the same day as her sister), Wolter Collert, a brother of her sister's husband. He d. after 28 Apr. 1644.
  - iv. Jan van Rensel(a)er (the 'a' spelling started about this time), bapt. Nykerk 25 Oct. 1604. Orphan Master at Nykerk; enfeoffed as his father's heir with the 10 acres in the Arkemeen Polder, which he transferred to his cousin Kiliaen 16 June 1638. Died Nykerk, 24 Feb. 1639, buried there 3 March. Married Maria van Zuylen van Nyvelt, bapt. Nykerk 16 Sept. 1602, died in or after 1644, daughter of Frederic and Maria van Wenckum.

7. Henrick Woltersz van Rensel(a)er lived at Amersfoort; schepen; Orphan Master; owner of half the Luxoel Estate under Nykerk (leasehold, Paderborn was the real owner). Died in or after 1634. Married before 29 May 1593, Johanna van Drosseler, who died after 25 Mar. 1632.

Children:

- i. Dr. Herman van Renselaer, b. Amersfoort ca. 1592. Dr. Med. at Amersfoort; councilor, schepen of Amersfoort; Regent, College of St. Joris for the Poor. Lived in 1653, single, in Friesland.
- ii. Feuis van Renselaer, lived 1654 at Amersfoort.
- iii. Goutgen (Aurelia) van Renselaer, died after 19 Nov. 1640; married at Amersfoort, 14 Apr. 1618, Jan de Wijs, born at Nykerk, treasurer and councilor of Amersfoort.
- iv. Geertgen (Geertruid) van Renselaer, lived (married?) in Friesland in 1654.
- v. Elisabeth van Renselaer, lived single in 1654 in Friesland.
- vi. Bye van Renselaer, died before 1654.
- vii. Sophia van Renselaer, died after 19 Nov. 1640.

Editor's Note. The foregoing article on the origin of the Van Rensselaer family should be of interest to the many descendants, even though it deprives them of quite as ancient a lineage in the male line as was formerly supposed. It is also of general interest, because of Mr. Hoffman's explanation of land tenure in Holland and of the adoption of the same surname by families of unrelated ancestry. A third source of interest is the picture it gives of social conditions in the Netherlands through the period from 1400 to 1600. It quite surprised the editor, in typing the article, to find mention of a Home for Widows in 1546; of the Guild of St. George; and of the Master of Arts who wished to

restore a Latin School in 1520 "out of love for the city of his birth and his devotion to education." It is also evident that at quite an early date city dwellers of no special social background were participating in the management of civic affairs. One wonders if urban civilization in Holland was not slightly more advanced than in England at the same period.

One or two items in the genealogical part of the article the editor failed to understand. I should greatly have preferred to halt the typing until I could have written to the contributor about these items and received his reply, but unfortunately the typing of the "master copy" for the printers was already far behind schedule and further delay was out of the question. May I therefore raise these questions here, and perhaps Mr. Hoffman will be so kind as to respond with an enlightening reply which can be printed in the next issue as a short addendum to his article?

It appears that Henrick Woltersz, first proved ancestor of the Van Rensselaer family in the male line, bought the Rensseler farm in 1488 from the skipper, Gherbert Ribbegingssoen and, it is stated, "his wife Zwene." However, in the genealogy it is shown that Gherbert married first, Zwene, of the old van Rensseler family, in 1469, and she had died by 1472 when he married one Weyme. Is the Zwene mentioned in the 1488 deed perhaps merely one of those slips to which we are all liable at times, and was Weyme intended, or can it be that Zwene was mentioned in the deed in some other connection?

An hypothesis occurs to me, which I put forward with great hesitation, because of my ignorance of Dutch genealogy. Other readers, however, may easily hit on the same theory, so it will do no harm to propound it, and I am hopeful that Mr. Hoffman may be able to dispose of it quickly, either as possible but unproved, or else as quite impossible and untenable.

Gherbert had married Zwene van Rensseler in 1469 and she died soon leaving an only child who must have been born about 1470. This child was heir to 200 gl. from Zwene's estate and Gherbert put up the Rensseler farm as security. Now if the child died, who would be the heir of that child by Dutch law at that period? The father? Or, since the property came from the mother, would it revert to the mother's relatives? In short, if the child had died before 1488, would Gherbert have had valid title to the Rensseler farm to sell it?

On the other hand, if the child lived, and if a girl, and if named Zwene for her mother, she would have been eighteen in 1488, and could then have been the wife of Henrick Woltersz who is known to have had a wife named Zwene. In that event, the wife of Henrick

already had a claim to the Renseler farm, either by inheritance or because her father had put it up as security for her portion. Hence in that case, the deed given by Gherbert was merely a confirmation deed or else was given to clear title and resign his "curtesy" right, if Dutch law admitted a curtesy interest in a deceased wife's realty as English law did.

I do not know whether such a theory is at all possible. The one fact I see against it is that while the family name of Henrick's wife Zwene is not evident from the records, as Mr. Hoffman assures us, he does state that her family name was Indyck according to the gravestone in the church at Nykerk "where her name is mentioned as one of the quarterings of Miliaen van Rensselaer." That does not sound like a contemporary record. How long after the event was this gravestone set in the church, and could the surname be wrong? Gherbert always appears in the records with merely his patronymic, but could he nevertheless have had the family name Indyck? Or is it possible that he belonged to a family which later adopted the surname Indyck, so that this name might later be applied to Zwene although not used contemporaneously?

Here are a number of questions, and on the answers to them hinges a very attractive hypothesis. Mr. Hoffman's opinions and conclusions will be most welcome if he chooses to comment, and will be published in full even though they may completely demolish the theory and make me feel very stupid for suggesting it. However, I see nothing in the facts stated in the article which make such a theory absolutely impossible. —D.L.J.

#### ON USING PERPETUAL CALENDARS

By George E. McCracken, Ph.D., Des Moines, Iowa

Genealogists may occasionally have need of determining on what day of the week a given date fell. Puritan baptisms, for example, as a rule took place on Sunday, and the date of a baptism as recorded may be at least partially confirmed if it can be shown that the day really was a Sunday. Another example is when the name of a month has been frayed from the margin of a page in the church records, so that what is left, say under the year 1672, is a blank and the figures 8, 22 and 29 in successive lines, referring to the dates in some month. If the last legible month was June, and the next following was September, then these dates can be assigned either to July or August, and the correct month can be determined when we ascertain in which of these months

the dates 8, 22 and 29 fell on Sundays.

For these purposes, recourse may be had to the ingenious devices known as "perpetual calendars," that is, condensations of the calendars of a long period of years into a handy table. These are, of course, not really "perpetual" at all, and often they do not go back far enough to be useful for seventeenth-century dates. The "Ready Reference Calendar" printed in the World Almanac for 1951 (p. 785) commences with the year 1753 (shortly after the New Style calendar went into effect in England and its colonies), and I have seen another which starts only in 1800.

A child named Ann Cogan, daughter of John, is recorded at Boston in the church records as having been baptized on 6 Nov. 1636 and in the corresponding town records as born on the seventh! This obvious impossibility leads Mr. Savage (Genealogical Dictionary of New England, 1:420) to remark on how "heedless the town records were kept" and to go on to some quaint animadversions on the early "sprinkl[ing]" accorded Benjamin Franklin on the day of his birth. With due respect to Mr. Savage, his strictures on the shortcomings of town clerks seem needlessly severe.

So many things can happen to cause error. Some parents kept no written record and turned in the births of several children at one time after their memory of precise dates had become blurred. If that sounds incredible, a number of examples could be cited of the birth records of several children in a group which specify only the months and years, indicating that the parents had not bothered even to try to memorize the exact dates. In some places at some periods it was undoubtedly the practice for the parents to write entries for the clerks to copy into the records, and a town clerk may be forgiven if he read and copied a '1' with too long a loop at the top as a '7.' Or, in the case cited, the father may have notified the town clerk on the Monday immediately following the Sunday baptism of his child, and the clerk may have misunderstood and entered the day of reporting the event. Furthermore, if it could be demonstrated that 6 Nov. 1636 was not a Sunday, the error might be that of the minister rather than of the town recorder.

The only perpetual calendar available to me happens to be the now battered affair treasured by the Reference Department of the Des Moines Public Library, bearing the imprint of "Emanuel's Condensed Calendar for 1601-2240, Distributed by Multicolor Sales Agency, Des Moines, Iowa" (no date but very old). Fortunately, the year 1636 was not one of those on the margin and now lost, but the evidence given by "Emanuel" (whoever he was) is that 6 Nov. 1636 was not Sunday but Thursday!

This was highly disturbing, but it occurred to me that the compiler of that table may not have taken into consideration the eleven days jumped when the Julian Calendar was replaced by the Gregorian. I therefore set down the following hasty table:

6 Nov. 1636 N.S.	Thursday	1
	Friday	2
	Saturday	3
	Sunday	4
	Monday	5
	Tuesday	6
	Wednesday	7
	Thursday	8
	Friday	9
	Saturday	10
	Sunday	11
6 Nov. 1636 O.S.		
	Thursday	1
	Friday	2
	Saturday	3
	Sunday	4
	Monday	5
	Tuesday	6
	Wednesday	7
	Thursday	8
	Friday	9
	Saturday	10
	Sunday	11

It was apparent that the theory was valid for at least this one date. It was therefore tested on a round dozen of dates of baptism for other children of the Cogan family, as recorded in a number of different churches and different towns. Processing these dates through the table, and allowing for the eleven days as above, it was found that ten of the twelve baptisms occurred on Sunday, one on Monday and one on Saturday. That is, without allowing for the eleven days, the table made ten baptisms fall on Thursday, one on Friday and one on Wednesday. Later, one of the divergences was found to be the result of an error of my own, and I think we may safely conclude that occasionally an error may occur in the printed records, for these baptismal dates that were tested were all taken from printed sources. My conclusion is that "Emanuel" completely disregarded the calendar change. His table can be trusted if the user always is careful to compensate for the additional eleven days.

Therefore, users of perpetual calendars for dates prior to 1752 must be careful to check them to learn whether the compilers ignored the change of calendar and, if they did, to make the necessary compensation. What is needed now is a new and correct perpetual calendar which will begin as long ago as 1500 and continue to the year 2000. Is there an accomplished mathematician who can give us one?

Editor's Note. This note is added at the request of Dr. McCracken. Correct perpetual calendars are in existence and may be consulted at some of the larger libraries. I have one which is called "A Scientific Calendar of the Great Solar Period of 7028 years and its 251 Julian Cycles," copyright by Butler Jack, New York City, Sept. 1913, which I bought shortly after that



date for the sum of twenty-five cents, the regular price. It is a marvel of condensation and accuracy, and the tables in five pages enable one to fix the day of the week on any day from 4088 B.C. to 1932 A.D. The tables stop at that point because Mr. Jack knew from biblical prophecy that "The Times of the Gentiles" were to end in 1931, ushering in the Millennium. Instead, we were then at the depth of the Great Depression, ushering in the era of Roosevelt here and the "Thousand Years" of Hitler's Reich in Europe.

Well, we all make mistakes, but Mr. Jack, although a doctrinaire, was an excellent mathematician, and if the copyright has expired I should like to see the sound part of these tables put out in a new edition.

#### MALLORY NOTES FROM VERMONT

By W. Herbert Wood, B.A.; New Haven, Conn.

The heads of the Mallory groups or items here given may all be identified in the account of the Mallory family in the New Haven Genealogical Magazine, Vol. 5, p. 1128, which does not follow down the Vermont branches.

Gill Mallory, b. ca. 1757, d. 1841 ae. 86 at Elbridge, N.Y.; Revolutionary pensioner; m. (1) 4 Apr. 1782, at Wells, Vt., Sarah Lamb, b. [21 July 1759], d. 2 Apr. 1799 ae. 39-8-12, at Wells, Vt., daughter of Joseph and Betsey Lamb; m. (2) 14 Jan. 1800, recorded at Wells, Phebe Puddon [Prudden?] of Granville, N.Y. Children by (1), recorded at Wells in typed copy:

- i. Amy, b. 4 May 1783; d. 23 May 1790, at Wells.
- ii. Joseph, b. 12 Feb. 1785.
- iii. Sarah, b. 16 Apr. 1787; prob. m. at Wells, 10 Dec. 1809, Hubbard Clark of Wells.
- iv. Betsey, b. 13 Apr. 1789; prob. m. at Wells, 19 Feb. 1809, Joseph Lumbard, of Wells.
- v. Jonathan, b. 3 Jan. 1791.
- vi. Amy, b. 16 July 1792.
- vii. Rachel, b. 20 Feb. 1794.
- viii. Polly, b. 3 Sept. 1795; m. Dr. Nathan Mitchell.
- ix. Abner, b. 24 Apr. 1797; d. 9 Aug. 1800, at Wells.
- x. Abigail, b. 5 Dec. 179(?)8).

Stephen Mallory, m. Frances Lamb. A child, Ogden, b. at Wells, 12 Sept. 1787 [Wells V.R.].

Silas Mallory, m. at Wells, Vt., 31 July 1782, Ruth Hubbard, of Wells; res. Middletown, Vt. Administration

was granted to Benajah Mallory of Middletown, 12 Mar. 1823. His wife Ruth survived him. [Rutland Probate, 11:373.] Children recorded Middletown, typed copy:

- i. Ashel, b. 26 June 1783.
- ii. Hannah, b. 3 Nov. 1784; m. ——— Frisbee.
- iii. Joseph, b. 25 Mar. 1786.
- iv. David, b. 5 Feb. 1788.
- v. Benajah, b. 1 Jan. 1791.
- vi. Nathan, b. 24 Jan. 1794.
- vii. Mindwell, b. 8 Jan. 1799; m. Lester Leach.

On 23 July 1824, David Mallory of Castleton and Benajah Mallory, Russel Mallory, Aaron Ives, Lucy Ives, Hannah Frisbee, Lester Leach and Mindwell Leach, all of Middletown, and Elias Mallory of Westfield, Chautauqua Co., N.Y., heirs with Joseph Mallory and Nathan Mallory of Middletown to the estate of Silas Mallory of Middletown, dec'd, quitclaim to said Joseph and Nathan. [Middletown Land Records, 5:240.]

Olive Mallory (perhaps a daughter of Ogden Mallory, m. Mar. 1785, Asa Stevens of Wells [Wells, Vt., V.R.].

Zaccheus Mallory, Jr., probably had a wife Thankful, for they witnessed deeds together at Wells, Vt.

Nathaniel Mallory m. 25 Apr. 1779, Keziah Pray [Ira, Vt., V.R.], perhaps a second marriage. Rev. soldier.

Daniel Mallory, b. at New Haven, Conn., 25 June 1758, d. 30 Dec. 1826 [gravestone, East Poultney, Vt.].

Esther Mallory, b. at New Haven, Conn., 4 Aug. 1760, d. 9 Feb. 1812 in 52d yr.; m. (1) ——— Miles; m. (2) at Poultney, Vt., 5 Oct. 1795, Dea. Elijah Drake Webster. [Webster Gen., p. 250.]

Calvin Mallory, b. 13 Aug. 1762 at New Haven, Conn., d. 12 Aug. 1810 [East Poultney, gravestone]; m. (2) Margaret ———, d. 5 Feb. 1815 [ibid.].

In the distribution of Calvin's estate 31 May 1811 by Elisha Ashby, Solomon Giddeons and Isaac Hosford, are the following heirs: Calvin, 1st son; Linus, 2nd son; Harvey, 3rd son; Meriam, 1st dau.; Mabel, 2nd dau.; Peggy, 3rd dau.; Perca, 4th dau.; Polly, 5th dau. [Fair Haven, Vt., Probate, 8:105.]

When the widow's dower was distributed, 7 Apr. 1817, Mabel was the wife of Starns Marshall, and Meriam was (the second) wife of Deacon Elijah Drake Webster, whom she m. at Poultney, 20 Apr. 1812. Meriam d. 8 Nov. 1869 ae. 82.

IDA WILMOT LINES JACOBUS  
1855-1952

Note: As Editor of The American Genealogist, I have never conducted the magazine as a personal vehicle, and even my own articles have rarely dealt with families from which I am personally descended. The present issue contains the usual 64 genealogical pages, and I am having additional pages printed in order to include the following obituary. My mother first interested me in family history before I reached my "teens." She loved copying and copied thousands of records for me. At rush seasons in the "lost years," she helped me with proof-reading and indexing. Some of the quaint items from old newspapers in which she delighted were published in the earlier volumes of this journal. For years she filed my correspondence relating to work on the magazine (it isn't filed any more!), and she always enjoyed meeting my genealogical friends and callers, among them a number of the older magazine subscribers. I feel that I, and perhaps the magazine, owe this tribute to her memory. —D.L.J.

Mrs. John I. Jacobus was born in New Haven, Conn., on July 9, 1855, resided in that city all her life, and died after a short illness in a convalescent home in the neighboring town of Orange on Feb. 27, 1952, aged 96 years 7 months 18 days. Born Ida Wilmot Lines, she was daughter and only surviving child of Henry Lines, a carriage manufacturer of the firm of Kean & Lines, and his wife, Mary Ann Wilmot.

She could trace her ancestry to some forty of the early settlers in New Haven when the town was founded over three centuries ago, including Rev. Nicholas Street, the second minister. She also had ancestry in other Connecticut towns, such as Hartford (Rev. Samuel Stone, Deacon Paul Peck, Hopkins and Sedgwick), New London (Obadiah Bruen), Guilford (Fowler, Hubbard and Cruttenden), Norwich (Lathrop), Windsor (Elder John Strong), Derby (Rev. John Bowers), Branford (Pond), Middletown (Cornwell), Haddam (Spencer and Brainerd), Saybrook (Bushnell), Norwalk (Marvin), Stratford (Curtis), Milford (Balwin, Platt, Beach, Merwin), and Wallingford (Moss, Hall, Merriman and many more); and in some Massachusetts towns, such as Roxbury (William Bartholomew and the captains John and Isaac Johnson). Among her ancestors was Lieut.-Col. Street Hall, an elder brother of Lyman Hall, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Nathan Hale served as a captain in the regiment of which Col. Hall was an officer.

She was married on 29 Sept. 1880 to John Ira Jacobus, a native of Newark, N.J., and survived her husband many years. At the time of his death (Jan. 13, 1912) he was head bookkeeper of the First National Bank. He was also a founder and secretary until his death of the New Haven Building and Loan Association. Her son and only near relative is Donald Lines Jacobus, compiler of many

books in the genealogical field and publisher of The American Genealogist. A first cousin is George Chadwick Stock, for many years a vocal teacher in New Haven and a writer in that field, now living at the age of 89 in Wallingford, Conn.

Mrs. Jacobus was a remarkable woman in many ways. She never spent an entire day in bed from illness between the time her son was born in 1887 until she fell and broke her hip on Nov. 12, 1948, a period of over 61 years. Her memory for details was phenomenal, and up to the time of her nearly fatal accident both her son and his secretary would ask her now and then for the spelling of a word which eluded them. She carried on a vigorous correspondence with old and new friends, though she survived nearly all of her older friends. For over thirty years she maintained a correspondence with a gentleman in London whom her son met during the first world war.

She was of an amiable but retiring disposition, concerned with her household, her family and a few intimate friends, and as she grew old, with her hobbies and the keeping of her diary. She insisted on cooking and doing the housework and refused any assistance until she was over 87. Even after that and until she went to the hospital with a broken hip, she still attended to a few duties about the house. She would never lie down or take a nap in the daytime, and for years sat up until the wee hours of the morning, though rising at the usual hour. She often accompanied her son on his short genealogical trips about the state, greatly enjoying the rides and eating out, and copying countless records to add to her son's collections. She continued to do this until she was over 92 years old, and until she was over 75 she participated in the copying of the gravestone inscriptions in entire cemeteries. Except for increasing deafness, her faculties remained good.

For over twenty years she lived with her son at 554 Central Avenue in the Westville section of New Haven. Several recent summers, beginning in 1945, she enjoyed at her son's cottage, "Holland House," at Short Beach in Branford, Conn.

In recent years she suffered a number of falls, but always without injury until she broke her hip. Only three months before that accident, she fell in the cottage trying to lift a baby who had slipped from a chair to the floor and was crying when no one else was within hearing. Although then 93 years old, and hardly weighing more than 80 pounds, she went to the baby's rescue but was not strong enough to lift her and fell. Afterwards she considered it a great joke and often laughed about it.

Mrs. Jacobus was educated at the noted school for

girls in New Haven which was run by the Misses Edwards. One of her schoolmates there, Miss Sanborn, now Mrs. Charles A. Pinkham of Wollaston, Mass., was 97 last December. Although blind, Mrs. Pinkham continued to write comforting letters to her up to the time of her death.

She was a Victorian in background and outlook. She loved flowers and babies and everything pretty. She lived up to those standards of ladylike behavior which she had learned in girlhood, and her speech was free not only of profanity but of slang. She well remembered Civil War days. Her mother caught the "black measles" carrying jellies to the sick soldiers at the encampment which was located in the block just west of Wooster Square or the "Little Green" as the old residents called it. In this same block the Home Insurance Company in the 1870's built the double row of brick houses which for many years was known as Home Place, but later was officially added to Court Street of which it was really an extension. The father of Mrs. Jacobus bought one of these houses in 1882, and the family lived there until 1918. The block is still standing.

In the autumn of 1948, Mrs. Jacobus's heart began to weaken, causing edema in the feet and ankles, and occasioning her fall that November. When she broke her hip her own doctor gave her up (he predeceased her); and three weeks later, the hospital staff definitely gave her up. Her will to live was tremendous, surprising in so slight a person, and she rallied. Nine weeks after that, when she was moved to the convalescent home, the hospital's prognosis was two months, but she survived for more than three years. She had a pleasant room, facing on the "Milford Pike" (Route 1), and sat twelve hours a day by a front window from which she could see the traffic. Here she wrote notes, embroidered, and read a great deal, chiefly mystery stories, to while away the time.

It distressed her that arrangements could not be made to provide for her care in her own home, but she accepted the inevitable, and enjoyed the regular visits of her son and the occasional visits of relatives and friends. Eight times it was possible to take her out for special occasions by using a car and collapsible wheel chair, with a friend of her son to help lift her. Twice she was driven to the cottage to celebrate her birthdays, the 94th and 95th, and three times was able to dine with her son and friends at a restaurant, the last time in June 1951 to commemorate her approaching 96th birthday. One of these occasions was Christmas in the downstairs apartment of her home. If on any one of the days selected, usually far in advance, for these excursions, it had been rainy, misty, snowy, cold, too

chilly or blowy, the event would have had to be postponed because of her frailty. It is amazing and almost incredible, in the New England climate, that of eight days chosen at random throughout the year, every one of these days turned out to be perfect. Even Christmas that year was like a mild spring day. There was not a single disappointing postponement of the planned event. On the day of her funeral, when it did not matter to her, a miniature blizzard prevented some from attending.

Mrs. Jacobus took a great interest in genealogy and in her son's work, and even at the "Home" asked to see copies of The American Genealogist as they were issued. The last few months, as the heart gradually weakened, she lost ground physically, and her fine memory began to fail; but to the end she remained conscious and rational, and five days before her death she wrote a perfectly worded letter to an old friend. Less than a day before she died, she pleaded to have the nurse get her up.

To many, her long life would have seemed dreary and eventless, but in the main she had the kind of life she wanted and she was content. Small and slight of build, she was intense, active and inspired with nervous energy. Her mild manner and appearance of frailty and even a genuine dependence of character were deceptive. The dependence was that of the Victorian lady who managed the household but looked to the man of the family to provide the living and to make the responsible decisions. Beneath the seeming frailty she possessed great vitality, a hidden reserve of tenacity and determination, and, best of all, a fighting heart.



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